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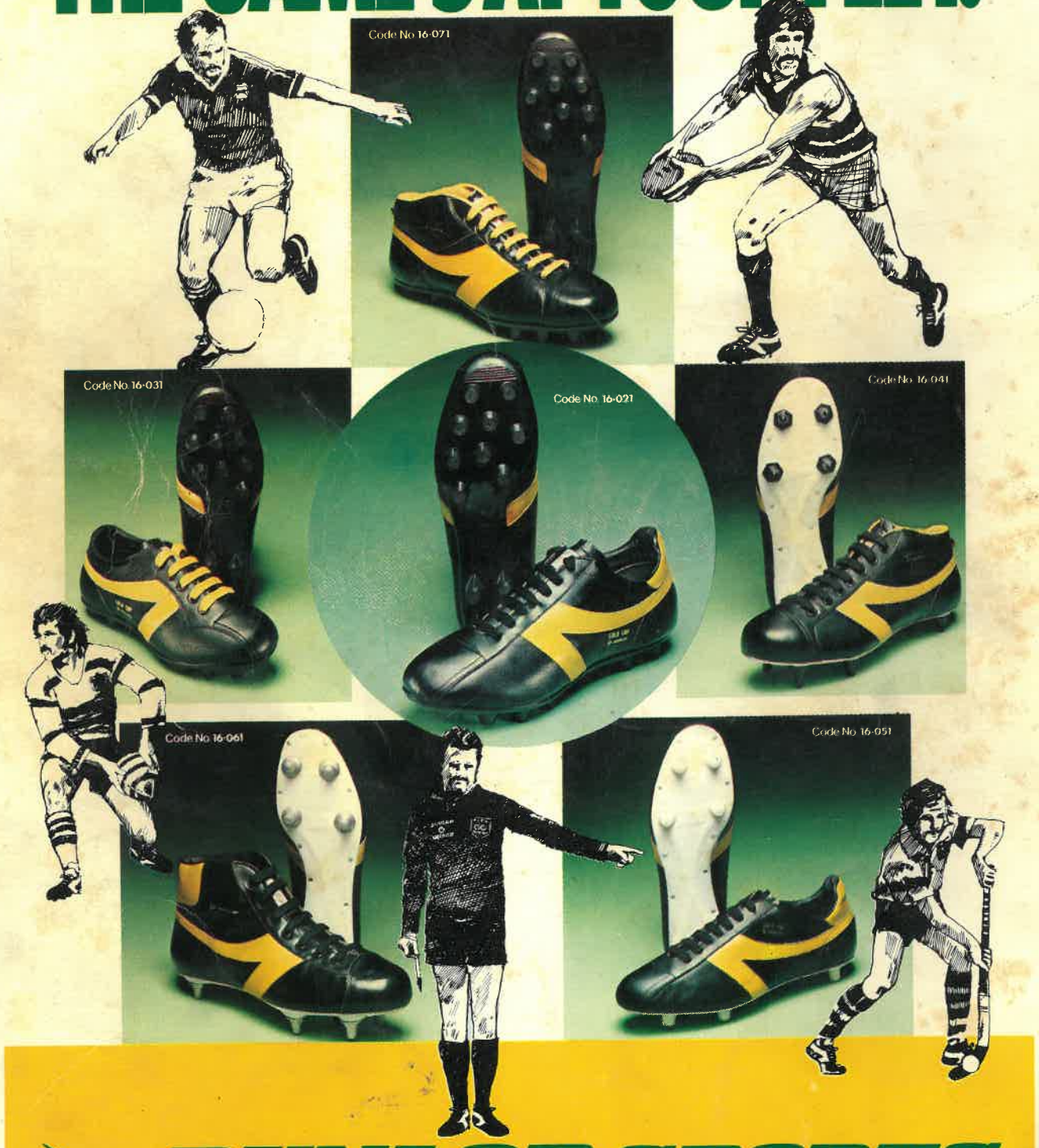

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Newspress

the Socceroos AND THEIR OPPONENTS

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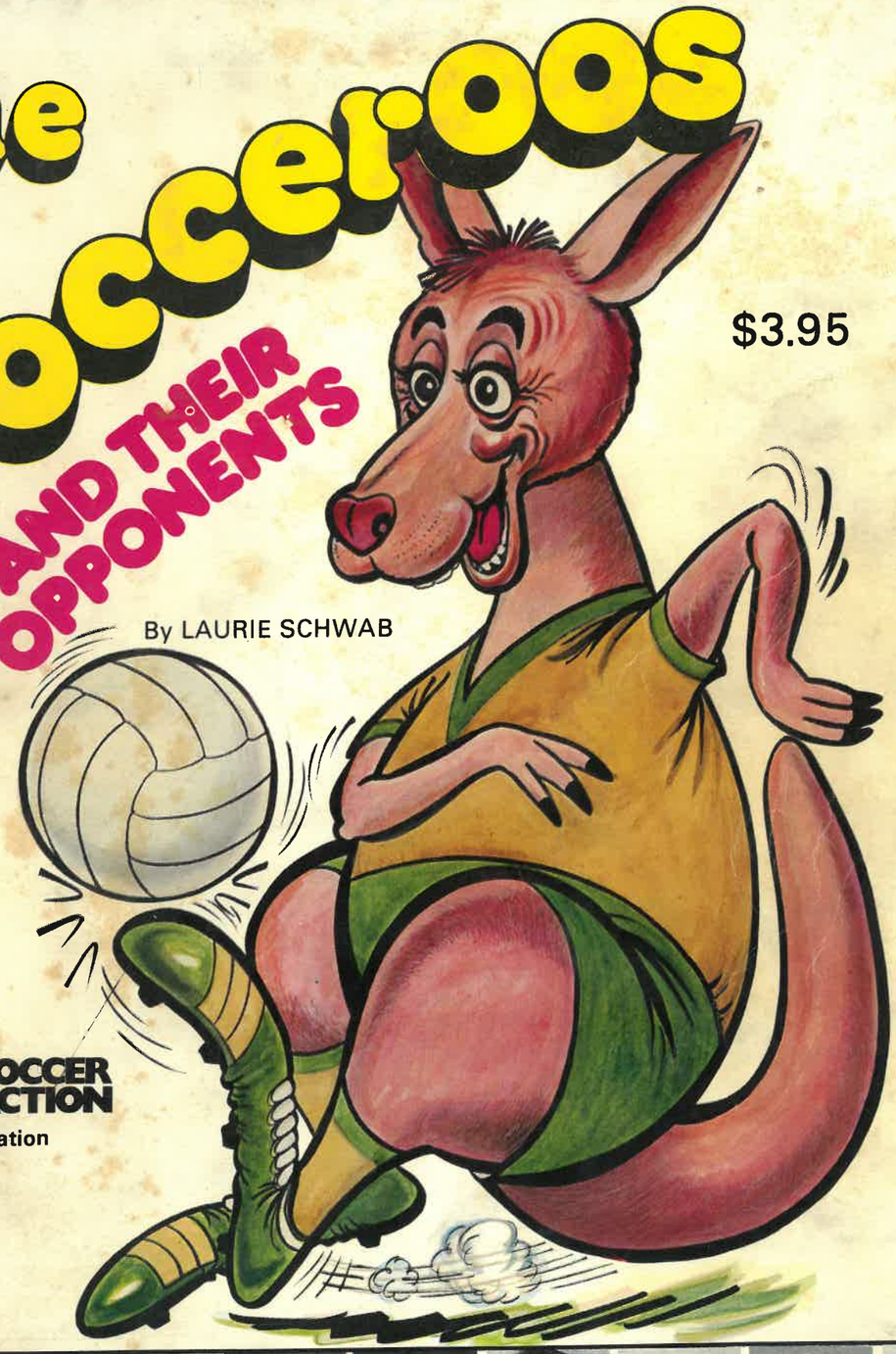
By LAURIE SCHWAB



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FOREWORD

By RUDI GUTENDORF
National Coach

I took the job as Australia's national coach because I had seen Australia play in the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany and I realised that a nation with such a fine sports tradition could once again have a team as good, if not better than the great combination of '74.

I have not regretted a single hour of my time in this fine land and I relish the challenge that the national team players and I face in the lead-up to the World Cup qualifying games in 1981.

My aim is to mould a successful, aggressive and offensively-minded Socceroo squad that will be a major force in the World Cup elimination games.

My other task in Australia is to try to inspire a different attitude to soccer, to lead the game into a new direction. My aim is to work mainly with Australian-born players, and I am extremely pleased that the president of the Australian Soccer Federation, Sir Arthur George, backs me in this youth policy.

This does not mean that I exclude totally all players from overseas. They too are in the running but to get into the national squad they must be exeptional — in a class of their own. Ken Boden of Newcastle and perhaps Peter Boyle of West Adelaide would fall into this category, but they will come into consideration only if they intend to become naturalised.

I repeat that I am looking mainly for locally-born or locally developed players because we now have more locally-produced talent of the right age than we ever have had before.

To realise all our aims, we need the co-operation and the understanding of the clubs. They must realise that the national team is the display window of Australian soccer and that, to do well on the international scene in the long term, we must concentrate on developing our own players. For this reason, I urge all clubs to take part in the youth policy we are trying to foster.

I urge clubs to reduce their quota of imports from overseas. It is admirable to buy one or two outstanding stars from Europe or South America, but wholesale importation and the importation of rubbish constitutes a crime against Australian soccer and against local talent.

Sir Arthur George and I are trying to create a scenario in which soccer is not wholly dependent upon the support of European settlers. Our aim must be to show the public that soccer is not a "foreign", but a local and international sport. The best way to do this is by using local players.

I am extremely pleased with the help I have so far received from coaches, administrators and the Press. I thank the following for help they have given me in the area of coaching: Leo Baumgartner, Bobby McLachlan, Joe Vlasits, Bill Curran, Denes Adrigan, Rale Rasic, Walter Tamadl, Ron Tindall, Alan Vest, Mike Wells, Manfred Schaefer, and Ray Richards. I apologise to anyone I may have left out.

Because I know little about the history of Australian soccer, I am pleased to be associated with this excellent publication, which serves as a valuable statistical record to soccer expert and soccer fan alike.

In fact, this publication is unique in Australia, where records of the type published here are extremely difficult to come by. I commend it to everyone with an interest in this great sport.

THE SOCCEROOS AND THEIR OPPONENTS

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• COVER PICTURE BY IVAN ROWLEY

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR . . .

Laurie Schwab has been the editor of the national soccer weekly "Soccer Action" since its inception in early 1976. He is also the soccer writer of "The Age," Australia's most highly respected newspaper. Schwab has been writing about soccer since 1965. He was editor of "Soccer News" and a contributor to "Australasian Soccer," both now defunct. He was a columnist with "Soccer World" and "Newsday" and has long reported soccer for Australian Associated Press. He also coaches a junior team in Melbourne. Schwab started in journalism with Broadglen Publishers, and then joined Age Suburban Publications where he held various positions as editor and sub-editor. He also worked for AAP (Sydney) as a duty editor and as Melbourne correspondent for "People" magazine.

The glamor of World Cup competition has made the national team — the Socceroos — the most marketable facet of Australian soccer.

The Socceroos command extensive media coverage and heavy financial sponsorship. Not only do they draw the biggest crowds but they are also able to attract "outsiders" — sports fans who otherwise would never see an Australian soccer game.

Increased interest by juniors has widened soccer's base in this country and the advent of the Philips League has concentrated the best players into a single competition that can produce a playing standard high enough to perhaps increase spectator interest as well.

But success by the national team is equally, if not more important to soccer's quest for greater recognition. In his foreword to this book, national coach Rudi Gutendorf accurately describes the Socceroos as "the display window of Australian soccer." Failure by the Socceroos would harm the image of the game as much as success would boost that image. Therefore, national team planning, selection and promotion must be meticulous.

Today's public is interested in big-time razzle-dazzle sport that rates coverage on television and on the back pages of the big papers — perhaps even the front pages! You'll find, people talking about the Australian-Open Tennis Championships, the VFL Grand Final, the latest Muhammad Ali fight, the Sydney Rugby League final or a big golf tournament even though they may have no particular interest in those sports. Exposure by the media is the reason. Australian soccer has always sought similar exposure but was unsuccessful until the Socceroos qualified for the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany. Suddenly you read about soccer everywhere, you saw it live on television, you heard it on the radio. In short, only the national team can win for Australian soccer the type of glamor that may, in the long run, make it the kind of big-time, razzle-dazzle sport that can capture the public's imagination. But the Socceroos can succeed in this task only if they win on the field. If they lose, as they lost in the 1977 World Cup qualifying series, they will become, in the eyes of the public, just another soccer team. Cruel it may be, but in the big-money world of super-sport, there is no room for sympathy.

Of course the Socceroos also serve a different purpose. Since 1922 when it played against New Zealand in its first international match, the national team has given every Australian player a goal at which to shoot. In aiming at a place in the Socceroo team, every player is striving hard to raise his level of achievement, which thus helps to improve the standard of the game as a whole.

There is no greater glory for any player than to be elevated to his national team — to stand tall among the finest 11 players in the country.

Australia's national team, which was dubbed "the Socceroos" during the 1973-74 World Cup mission, has comprised many extraordinary players during its 57 years of ups and downs. These players, and their changing fortunes, are chronicled in this long overdue book.

We have included statistics about players' appearances in the green and gold of Australia and we concede that in some areas, these are open to question. However, in the absence of any comprehensive, official records, ours are as accurate as any others that may be available. The area of greatest contention is which matches should be rated as full internationals. Two games against New Caledonia on Australia's 1970 world tour are not recognised by the ASF as full internationals, yet a game against "Iran" on the same tour does get such billing, although Iranian sources claim that the team that played that day in Teheran was in fact the club side, Persepolis. A 1972 tour match against the Philippines is recorded as a full international, although the Philippines fielded two guest players from Spain. The six games against the USSR are all listed as full internationals although the Soviets made it clear that their team was only a second-string selection, and Australia fielded three non-naturalised players — Agenor Muniz, Jim Tansey and Rudolfo Gnavi.

All that aside, this book serves as a unique record of the national team's achievements and its opponents since 1922 and introduces the Socceroos of today — the men being groomed by Rudi Gutendorf for the 1981-82 World Cup campaign.

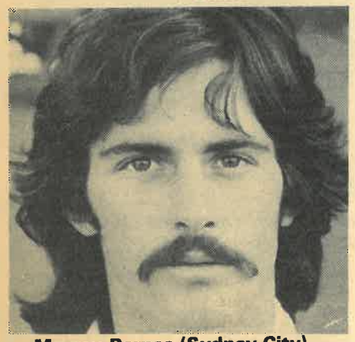
— LAURIE SCHWAB

These are the men for World Cup 1982

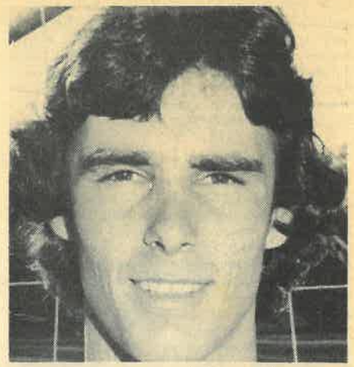
The national squad will be subject to much experimentation until coach Rudi Gutendorf finds the Socceroos who will carry Australia's hopes in the 1981 World Cup qualifying campaign.

The following are the leading candidates for Gutendorf's squad.

Yakka Banovic (Heidelberg Utd.)



Murray Barnes (Sydney City)



Gary Byrne (Marconi)

Todd Clarke (Sydney City)

YAKKA BANOVIC, goalkeeper, Heidelberg-Alexander, came to Australia with his parents from Yugoslavia when he was eight years old and was educated at Whyalla, SA, where he also developed as an all-round sportsman. He represented his school region at discus, javelin and the 1500 metres, played representative table tennis and also starred as an Australian Rules ruck-rover. For some time he was playing both club soccer and Aussie Rules, and it was his Australian Rules experience that helped make him an outstanding goalkeeper. After playing for Croatia Whyall, he was signed by Croatia Adelaide which thought so much of him that it flew him from Whyalla and back for games every weekend. Finally, Banovic moved to Adelaide where he attended teachers' college until he went to Canada to try his luck with Metros Croatia there. However, after eight months in Canada, there was a misunderstanding between Metros and Croatia Adelaide over the terms of his transfer. A deadlock developed which caused Banovic to return to Australia and join Essendon Croatia for a $5000 transfer fee at the start of 1978. Having previously represented South Australia, Banovic was chosen to play for Victoria against Wisla Krakow of Poland in February, 1979. His form in that game confirmed that he is possibly the finest goalkeeper in Australia. His style is reminiscent of Ron Corry's and like Ron Corry, Banovic is a fitness fanatic. Banovic has a brilliant representative future, as he is only in his early twenties. Was transferred to Heidelberg-Alexander for $15,000.

MURRAY BARNES, midfielder or striker, Sydney City (Hakoah). He and fellow Socceroo Peter Stone played against each other in the NSW v Northern NSW under 16 match which was the curtain-raiser to Australia's decisive World Cup qualifying match against Isreal in Sydney in 1969. The game gave him his first taste of big-time soccer, so he worked hard to realise his great potential and in 1974 he represented Australia at under 23 level in Indonesia. His senior debut for Australia came in August, 1978, against China in Melbourne. Todd Clarke, Agenor Muniz, Gary Byrne, Rene Colusso and Duncan Cummings also made their debuts in this game, which Australia won 1-0. Barnes' first full international was against the USSR in Adelaide in November, 1975. Coach Brian Green used him as a striker but under Jim Shoulder Barnes was only a fringe player until he was switched to midfield for a game against Bobby Charlton's All Stars in Melbourne in mid-1977 He retained his midfield position for the World Cup home legs against Iran, South Korea and Kuwait. A strong, tall, imposing figure, Barnes was named in the Philips League Team of the Year for 1977. He had a trial with Leeds United in England in 1973.

COL BENNET, centre back, Brisbane Lions. In February 1975, Australia met Legia Warsaw of Poland in the first match since the retirement of "Iron Man" defender Manfred Schaefer, who had served Australia with distinction for about eight years. Col Bennett, the big APIA defender with the build of a lumberjack, was given the awesome job of replacing Schaefer as the new centre back partner for Peter Wilson. Bennett has been the No. 1 choice for the position ever since. Arsenal's Malcolm Macdonald said of Bennett during the "World of Soccer" tournament in 1977: "I have never played against anyone who's tougher or better in the air." Bennett started his sernior career with Sutherland Shire in Sydney, then moved to APIA and joined Brisbane Lions in early 1977 because he wanted to play in the Philips League.

KEN BODEN, striker, Newcastle KB United, had a brilliant start in Australian soccer when he won the 1978 Australian Scocer Press Associatin (ASPA) Player of the Year award, the "Soccer Action"-Yugoslav Airlines Player of the Year award and was also equal top scorer in the Philips League. Made his debut for Australia when he came on as a substitute against Wisla Krakow in Sydney in February, 1979, but cannot be naturalised until just before the 1981 World Cup qualifying series. Boden comes from England where he performed goalscoring feats for Doncaster Rovers, Hull City, Scunthorpe and Bridlington. He also played at Sheffield United and Matlock Town. From 1965 to 1977 he scored an average of 15 goals a season. Boden is in his late twenties.

VIC BOZANIC, left back or midfield, West Adelaide. After Rudi Gutendorf took up his appointment as national coach, one of the first players he singled out for praise was Vic Bozanic, the star recruit of West Adelaide, who is only in his early twenties. West bought Bozanic from Polonia Adelaide in early 1978 and had it now been for him, West may not have won the Philips League championship. It had to at least draw its last-round match with Adelaide City to take the title. City was leading, but Bozanic came to the rescue when he got onto a long ball and hooked it first-time over goalkeeper Peter Marshall for the equaliser. Bozanic has one of the fiercest shots in the league. Long-range pile-drivers are his specialty.

TERRY BUTLER, midfielder or winger, APIA. Won the NSW Rothmans Medal as the best and fairest player in the State League in 1978. Butler started with Annandale and moved to APIA as a junior. He broke into the

NSW State squad in August, 1971, for a game against New Caledonia, scoring one of NSW's eight goals. His first match for Australia was against Wolverhampton Wanderers (2-2) in Sydney in 1972 and the same year he was on Australia's Asian tour. After six years in relative obscurity, he is once again under consideration for the national team.

GARY BYRNE, Marconi midfielder. Left Australia briefly during the 1978 season to try his luck in Europe and the U.S. His departure came shortly after an argument with Rale Rasic, his coach at Marconi, who wanted him to play full back in place of the injured Barry Jones. Byrne rebelled although he was also assigned to the full-back position for the national team's series against Greece. Born in England, Byrne played junior soccer in Sydney for Camden, Southern Districts under 16s and Sutherland before joining Marconi where he worked his way up from Third Grade. He was in the national under 23 squad in 1974-75 before being promoted to the senior squad in 1975 for games against China and the USSR. His former Marconi team mate Jimmy Rooney has rated Byrne as potentially the best midfielder in Australia.

GEORGE CAMPBELL, forward, South Melbourne. Has been one of Australia's most exciting forwards since South bought him from Scottish club Aberdeen in a $20,000 deal in May, 1978. However, Campbell has been plagued by injuries in recent years. He was out of action for 12 weeks in the 1977-78 season due to a fracture and another 10 weeks with an ankle injury. Towards the end of the 1978 PSL season, he fractured a leg in a game against Adelaide City and was again sidelined. However, he's back again, showing all his exciting skills, and his great flair for goalscoring and goal-making. A definite prospect for the Socceroos of the future.

TODD CLARK, goalkeeper, Sydney City (Hakoah). Switched to Sydney from Adelaide Beograd in 1976, after some brilliant performances for Australia in the 1975 series against the USSR. National coach Brian Green said after the series that Clarke could become better than the great Ron Lord. Clarke played for the Australian under 23 team in Indonesia in 1975 and made his senior international debut against China later that year. He had a running battle with Allan Maher for the honor of being No. 1 goalkeeper until he was injured. The injury caused him to miss the 1977 World Cup qualifying games.

Joe Picioane (right) of Footscray and Col Bennett of Brisbane Lions — PSL opponents, Socceroo team-mates?

GARY COLE, striker, Heidelberg-Alexander. Made his debut for the full national team in 1978, scoring the only goal in a 1-2 loss to Greece in Melbourne. In 1975, he played for Australia under 23 in Indonesia against South Korea and Burma, and has also represented Victoria four times. Cole was the Philips League's top scorer on aggregate over the first two years of the league's existence, and is a qualified coach under the national coaching scheme. Cole started his soccer with Victorian Fourth Division club South Yarra and then had four years with Ringwood Wilhelmina in State League before Fitzroy bought him for about $6000 in early 1976. Cole is a schoolteacher.

MARTYN CROOK, goalkeeper, West Adelaide. Rated by some as the best goalkeeper in Australia, despite his youth. Crook was named in the 1977 and 1978 "Soccer Action" Teams of the Year. A former South Australian under 16 representative, Crook played with Para Hills before transferring to West Adelaide in 1975. He was born in England and came here with his family at a young age. In 1977, he impressed the then Middlesbrough captain, Graeme Souness, while Souness was here as a West Adelaide guest player. As a result, Crook was invited to fly to England to try out with Middlesbrough. However, he did not like it there and returned after only a few weeks.

DUNCAN CUMMINGS, striker, South Melbourne Hellas. Born in Birmingham, England, but learned his soccer as a junior with Melbourne, the same club that produced Attila Abonyi and Joe Palinkas. "Soccer News" named him Victoria's best junior player in 1970, when he was in the Melbourne under 12 team. By the age of 15, he had broken into Melbourne's senior team and in early 1976, South Melbourne bought him for $10,000 which was then a Victorian record fee. Cummings has represented Victoria five times and played one game for the Australian under 23 team. He made his senior international debut against China in 1975 and has also played against Benfica and Hong Kong. Cummings, known as "The Ghost" because of the uncanny way in which he appears in goalscoring positions, was hampered by injuries in 1977 and 1978, but is still South Melbourne's top scorer in PSL games.

TOMMY CUMMING, striker, Essendon-Croatia. The smallest, but also the most successful Victorian State League player of 1978. Played for Scottish Junior League club Johnstone Borough before joining Sunshine City in the Victorian State League in early 1976.

Vic Bozanic (left) of West Adelaide tackles Andy Bozikas of Heidelberg Utd.

Two Rothmans Medallists of 1978, Terry Butler (left) of APIA and Tommy Cumming (right) of Essendon Croatia

Gary Cole (Heidelberg Utd)

Martyn Crook (W. Adelaide)

Duncan Cummings (Sth. Melbourne)

Switched to Croatia at the start of the 1978 season and went on to win the Bill Fleming Medal as Player of the Year, and also the Rothmans Medal. Has represented Victoria four times — against South Australia and Middlesbrough in 1977, against Dundee in 1978 and against Wisla Krakow in 1979.

JOHN DAVIES, midfielder, Canberra City. A Canberra boy, Davies played for Melrose Lions before switching to Sydney Croatia where he started to build a reputation as a top player. When the Philips League started in 1977, Canberra City and Croatia became involved in a heated transfer wrangle over Davies, which resulted in him playing only three games on loan before returning to Croatia. However, his transfer was secured in early 1978 and he was chosen to play in two of Australia's three games against Greece. His first game for Australia had been in the 0-1 loss to Hong Kong in Canberra in 1976.

PAUL DEGNEY, left back, Marconi. Was set for his international debut against Greece but in a development that rocked the soccer world, Marconi decided to use Degney and Sharne in a club match, defying a request by national coach Jim Shoulder that the two players be rested, to keep them fresh for the international match. As a result of Marconi's defiance, Degney and Sharne were dropped from the national squad and Marconi was fined by the ASF. Marconi took the ASF to court over the fine, forcing the ASF to back down. The Philips League then moved in and renewed the fine. Degney, a schoolteacher, is Australian-born and started his soccer with the Arncliffe and Cara Park Juniors in Sydney. Then came Melita, Eagles, St. George and Sutherland before switching to Marconi in 1972. He was on the schoolboys' tour of New Caledonia in 1970 and has represented NSW at senior and under 23 levels. He finally did make his Australian debut against Wisla Krakow in early 1979.

LARRY GAFFNEY, midfielder, Brisbane City, only in his early twenties, this tireless, all-action dynamo was bought by Brisbane City from Wollongong when the Philips League started in early 1977. Scored 10 goals for Wollongong in 1976, three goals for Brisbane City in 1977 and two goals in 1978. Has represented Queensland.

BRENDAN GROSSE, centre back or midfielder, St. George, made his debut for Australia under coach Eric Worthington in 1975, coming on as a substitute for Jimmy Mackay. His next appearance was under coach Tony Boggi and this time, Grosse replaced Mike Micevski in Australia's 1-0 victory over Glasgow Rangers. His last appearance was against Manchester United the same year. Boggi still believes that Grosse should have been kept in the squad. "He was only a youngster at the time, yet he wasn't given a chance in later representative squads," Boggi says.

TONY HENDERSON, centre back or midfielder, Marconi, played for East London in South Africa before joining Canberra at the start of 1977. Will be eligible for naturalisation at the end of 1979 and was Australia's captain against Wisla Krakow in Sydney. Tall, strong, thoughtful, intelligent and commanding, Henderson has earned praise from all the Philips League coaches for his fine play. His former coach, Johnny Warren, says Henderson is a "must" for one of the two centre back postiions in the 1981 World Cup team. Henderson was transferred to Marconi for $14,000 in December, 1978.

MARK JANKOVICS, striker, Marconi. Born in Australia, Jankovics was included in the St. George Budapest senior team by the then coach, Johnny Warren, and was second highest scorer in Saints' 1975 NSW championship win. His later years with St. George were unhappy ones so he transferred to Marconi in early 1978 for $7500. At Marconi he started brilliantly, scoring every week, but a leg injury later in the year hampered his development. Brian Green selected Jankovics for his international debut against New Zealand in Auckland in 1976. He played also against Sunderland and Bologna under Jim Shoulder that year, and against Wisla Krakow in early 1979.

DAVID JONES, centre back, West Adealide. Moved to Adelaide in early 1977 from Perth where he played for Tricolore. Had attracted attention in 1975 by playing for the Australian under 23 team against South Korea (1-1) and Burma (1-2) in Indonesia. Made his international debut in the World Cup game against Kuwait (0-1) in Kuwait in 1977, after Peter Wilson had been injured. Jim Adam, who coached West Ad-

elaide to the 1978 Philips League championship, sees Jones as the new Peter Wilson of the national team.

CHRIS KALAFATIDIS, full back or centre back, South Melbourne Hellas, Product of the South Melbourne juniors, represented Victoria at under 15, 16 and 18 levels and also played for the Australian under 18 team. In 1977 he came third in the voting for the best Australian under 21 player. Like fellow Victorian, Gary Cole, Kalfatidis is a qualified coach under the national coaching scheme. A Victorian representative he made his Australian debut against Greece (1-2) in Melbourne in 1978.

STEVE KOKOSKA, centre back, Essendon Croatia. Born at Cunnamulla, Queensland, came to Melbourne as a baby with his parents and joined Sunshine City under 12s in 1957. Had his first senior game with Sunsine at the age of 16 and went on to play more than 200 senior games with the club before switching to Croatia for a transfer fee of $6000 after having trialled with South Melbourne Hellas. His transfer came the season after he had won the 1976 "Soccer Action"-Yugoslav Airlines Player of the Year award. National coach Jim Shoulder saw Kokoska destroy Peter Ollerton in a Sunshine v. South Melbourne match in 1976 and named him in the national B team which, however, was disbanded before playing a game. Kokoska played for Victoria against South Australia and Middlesborough in 1977 and against Wisla Krakow in 1979 and made his debut for Australia as a substitute against Greece.

JOHN KOSMINA, striker, West Adelaide. One of the most remarkable successes of Australian soccer so far. Kosmina played his first game for Australia in 1976 against Bologna and scored his first two international goals against a Chinese Selection in Peking on Australia's world tour the same year. As a result of the exposure he received, West Adelaide signed him on loan from Polonia Adelaide for the start of the inaugural Philips League season. It was reported at the time that the loan fee was $4000 and that Kosmina was to get $7000 for himself. In Australia's 1977 World Cup qualifying series, Kosmina scored six goals in 12 games to became Australia's top scorer in World Cup matches. He achieved that feat despite being the youngest member of the Socceroos' squad. At the end of the year he was voted Australia's best under 21 player but West Adealide's loan agreement over Kosmina had now expired. Almost every club in Australia wanted Kosmina at the start of 1978 but during the "World of Soccer" tournament he had impressed Arsenal's manager Terry Neill to such an extent that it was the great London club that finally signed him and flew him overseas. It was rumored that Arsenal supplied Kosmina with $20,000 so he could buy his transfer from Polonia. Kosmina had a few senior games with Arsenal. He returned to Australia during the English off-season in 1978 to play guest games with Adelaide City. During his visit he also played for Australia against Greece in Adelaide. He transferred back to West Adelaide from Arsenal for $25,000 in 1979.

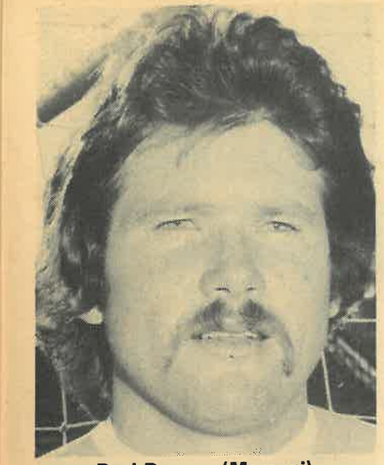
Ken Boden (Newcastle)

Larry Gaffrey (Brisbane City)

JIM KONDARIOS, centre back, Footscray J.U.S.T., more than six foot tall, almost unbeatable in the air, a master in the tackle, Kondarios has represented Victoria 10 times, since 1975, against Glasgow Rangers, Benfica, Velez Mostar, Tottenham Hotspur, Bologna and Dundee among others. He has also played for the Australian 'B' team. Born in Greece, he came to Australia at a young age and worked his way up through the ranks to the senior team of the now defunct Croatia club. From there he transferred to Keilor Austria and then joined Footscray J.U.S.T. His coach Cedo Cirkovic has often switched him to centre forward late in the game because of his strength and heading power. He has scored many valuable goals by coming forward for corners and free kicks.

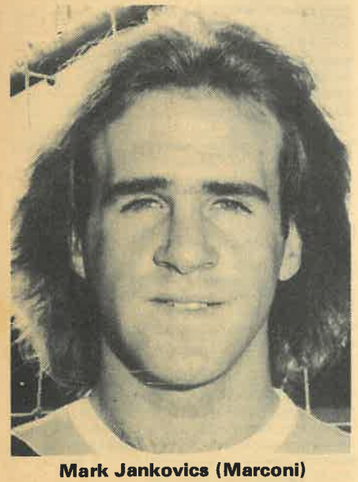
ZDRAVKO LUJIC, striker, midfielder or full back, Footscray J.U.S.T. Will be eligible for naturalisation in time for the 1981 World Cup games. Coach Rudi Gutendorf showed his shrewd judgement when he singled out Lujic for praise after seeing him play for the PSL representative side against Vardar Skoplje in Sydney in late 1978. As a result, Gutendorf included Lujic in the Australian selection to meet Wisla Krakow, but Lujic had to withdraw due to injury. Lujic came fourth behind Ken Boden, Steve Perry and Neil McGachey in the "Soccer Action" — Yugoslav Airlines 1978 Player of the Year award. He joined Footscray from Yugoslavia where he played for Novi Sad. In the Cup game against Borussia Moenchengladbach Lujic suffered a serious hip injury in a tackle by the great Berti Vogts. The injury kept him out of soccer for six months. When he recovered he found it hard to regain his place in the Novi Sad team so he left to try his luck in Australia.

National team candidates Jim Kondarios (left) of Footscray and George Campbell of South Melbourne



Paul Degney (Marconi)

Brendan Grosse (St. George)



Mark Jankovics (Marconi)

PETER LAUMETS, goalkeeper, South Melbourne Hellas. A product of the Altona City juniors, which also produced former Socceroo Mike Micevski, Laumets switched to Makedonia in early 1976 for $7000 and has since played three State games. He got his first chance in the Australian team against Greece in Melbourne and was one of the best players on the ground. Was transferred to South Melbourne in December, 1978 for $15,000, on Australian record fee for a goalkeeper.

NEIL McGACHEY, midfielder, West Adelaide captain, voted 1978 South Australian player of the year and was runner-up in the Australian Player of the Year poll. Came to Australia from Scotland 15 years ago and worked his way up through the West Adelaide juniors. Has represented South Australia many times but has yet to play for Australia. McGachey has the leadership qualities desperately required in the Socceroo midfield.

ALLAN MAHER, goalkeeper, Marconi. Nick-named "Spider" because of his long arms, Maher started soccer at the age of 16 with North Rocks Juniors, then Sutherland (3 years), Granville (2 years) and Western Suburbs (3 years). Joined Marconi First Grade in 1975 and represented NSW and Australia under 23 before being chosen to the national squad by Rale Rasic as one of three goalkeepers for the World Cup mission of 1974. Maher played against St. Gallen in Switzerland on the way to the finals in West Germany, and his next appearance was against Legia Warsaw in 1975. From that time he was a constant member of the Socceroos' squad, battling with Todd Clarke for the honor of being No. 1. He had gained that honor on the 1976 world tour, but a serious back injury which landed him in hospital in Asia, interrupted his international career. He returned for the World Cup games in 1977 when Clarke was injured.

GARY MAROCCHI, midfielder, Adelaide City. Captained Australia against Greece in 1978 in the absence of Peter Wilson who had led the Socceroos since 1971. Marocchi played for the Australian under 23 team in Indonesia in 1975 and the following year was chosen by coach Jim Shoulder for the Socceroos' world tour. He was playing for Azzurri in Perth at the time, but his new stardom aroused interest in the eastern States, and he was transferred to Adelaide City for the start of the 1977 Phillips Leage season. Was injured in 1978 but fought his way back.

GARY MEIER, goalkeeper, Sydney Olympic, tall, fast, fearless, with electric reflexes. Meier has been one of the best goalkeepers in the Philips League since it began, and was chosen by coach Rale Rasic for the Philips League representative squad for a game against Olympiakos of Greece in late 1978.

KEVIN MULLEN, right back, Sydney City (Hakoah). Has spent nine years with Hakoah, where he made his way, to the senior team via the juniors. Rated by his coach, Gerry Chaldi, as the best right back in Australia. Mullen has represented NSW at junior and senior levels and made his Socceroo debut against Hong Kong (0-1) in Canberra in 1976. Peter Stone, John Davies, Mendo Ristovski and Phil O'Connor also got their first chance in this game,but coach Jim Shoulder dropped most of them after they lost, and Mullen remained out of favour. He now has another chance under Rudi Gutendorf.

JOHN NYSKOHUS, striker, Adelaide City. Joined City at the start of 1977 from Lion after having often represented South Australia, along with his brother Bugsy, a full back. Bugsy was on Australia's 1972 Asian tour under coach Rale Rasic. John was also included in one of Rasic's squads but did not play for Australia until the 1974 under 23 series in Indonesia. He made his senior international debut under Brian Green in the 1975 series against the USSR and has re-

Tony Henderson (Marconi)

David Jones (W. Adelaide)

Phil O'Connor (St. George)

John Davies (Canberra)

John Kosmina (West Adelaide)

Steve Kokoska (front) in a heading duel with Dixie Deans

mained a permanent squad member ever since. Against Greece in Melbourne, John was Australia's best player. He was also best on the ground in South Australia's 1-1 draw with Wisla Krakow.

PHIL O'CONNOR, striker, St. George. Came to Australia in 1975 from England where he was with Luton Town. St. George bought him in early 1977 from Wollongong City for $9000. He had scored 12 goals for Wollongong in 1976 and after joining Saints he scored 8 in 1977 and 11 in 1978. A deadly, skilful striker, O'Connor played his first game for Australia against Hong Kong in 1976 and his second against Greece in Sydney in 1978. A red-hot favorite for the 1981 World Cup team.

Zdravko Lujic (left) of Footscray with Eddie Krncevic of Marconi

STEVE O'CONNOR, centre back, Sydney City (Hakoah) Joined Hakoah about 10 years ago as a junior and had his best season in 1978 when he finished third behind Eddie Thomson and Hilton Silva in Hakoah's best and fairest award. O'Connor's fine form prompted his coach Gerry Chaldi to describe the young defender as a future Australian captain. O'Connor, who is one of the fastest defenders in the country, has represented NSW and played for Australia against Wisla Krakow.

JOHN O'SHEA, centre back or midfielder, St. George. Highly versatile player who, with Steve O'Connor, formed the centre back partnership for NSW in its 2-2 draw with Queensland in Brisbane in 1978. However, in his Australian debut against Greece in Sydney, he played in midfield alongside John Davies and Peter Stone. John's brothers Rob and Mick also play for St. George.

STEVE PERRY, full back or sweeper, Brisbane City, product of NSW State League club Sutherland, from where he joined Western Suburbs. After a year with Wests, he switched to Brisbane City where he was outstanding as sweeper in 1978, finishing runner-up to Ken Boden in the "Soccer Action"-Yugoslav Airline Player of the Year award. Made his debut for Australia in the 1-1 draw with Greece in Sydney in 1978, playing as sweeper. Against Wisla Krakow in February 1979, he was chosen at right back.

JOE PICIOANE, midfielder, Footscray J.U.S.T. Known as Footscray's Rivelino, after the Brazilian ball wizard, and described by many coaches, including Rale Rasic, as potentially the finest midfielder in Australia. Picioane shows uncanny skill and inventiveness on the ball and is also a fierce tackler when he loses it. He loves to be always in the action. Picioane started with the Footscray juniors but suffered a broken leg and later went on loan to Slavia and Waverley City before transferring to Hakoah-St. Kilda. Three years later he returned to Footscray where his talent blossomed. Played his first match for Australia against Greece in Melbourne and also played against Wisla Krakow.

Peter Laumets (Sth Melboune)

Kevin Mullen (Sydney City)

John Nyskohus (Adelaide City)

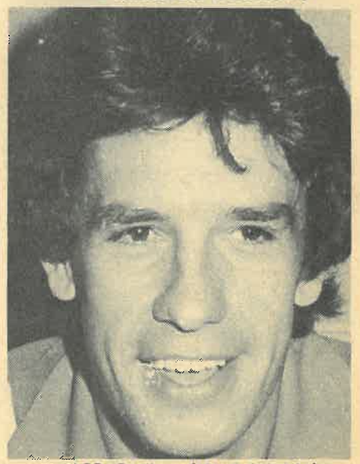
Chris Kalafatidis (Sth Melbourne)

MENDO RISTOVSKI, striker, Footscray J.U.S.T. Showed his best form in scoring two goals for a PSL combined team against Vardar Skoplje of Yugoslavia in late 1978. The combined team won 4-3. Ristovski came up through Footscray's juniors and has been the most consistent goalscorer since breaking into the senior team in 1975. He has played six senior games for Victoria and made his Australian debut against Hong Kong in 1976. Was named for the World of Soccer tournament in 1977 but injury forced his withdrawal. His next appearance in the green and gold was against Greece in Melbourne.

PETER SHARNE, striker, Marconi. Nicknamed "Bullet" for his speed, born in Australia, started with the Landsvale Juniors in Sydney and played for Liverpool City and Southern Districts representative side before joining Marconi third grade in 1973. His football career almost came to an end in 1975 when Sharne fractured his spine. For six months he was an invalid, getting about only with the aid of a restrictive corset. Today Sharne pays tribute to his then coach, Luciano Nesti. "if it hadn't been for his urging, I would never have laced my football boots again," he says. Sharne still has pain when he runs but he has learnt to live with it. However, he was worried about losing some of his speed, so he spent the 1978-79 summer months in sprint training. Sharne rates Sydney City's Kevin Mullen and Canberra's Danny Moulis as the most difficult full backs against whom he has played - praise indeed for these two aspiring Socceroos, from one of the trickiest forwards in Australia. Sharne made his Australian debut in the "World of Soccer" tournament of 1977, as a substitute against Arsenal (3-1) and Red Star (2-3). He also appeared as a sub in the World Cup qualifying game against Iran (0-1) in Melbourne that year. Sharne was chosen for the series against Greece but was dropped, along with Paul Degney after both had played for Marconi when they should have been resting for Australia's game. (see more under Paul Degney).

IAN SOUNESS, midfielder, Sydney City, voted by the ASPA as Australia's best under 21 player of 1978 - his first season in Australia. Souness, who is related to Scottish international Graeme Souness of Liverpool, joined Sydney City (Hakoah) from Chelsea in England. Was included by Rudi Gutendorf in the Australian squad for the game against Wisla Krakow in February, 1979.

Mendo Ristovski (Footscray)



Neil McGachey (W. Adelaide)

Allan Maher (Marconi)

Peter Stone (APIA)

Steve Perry (Brisbane City)

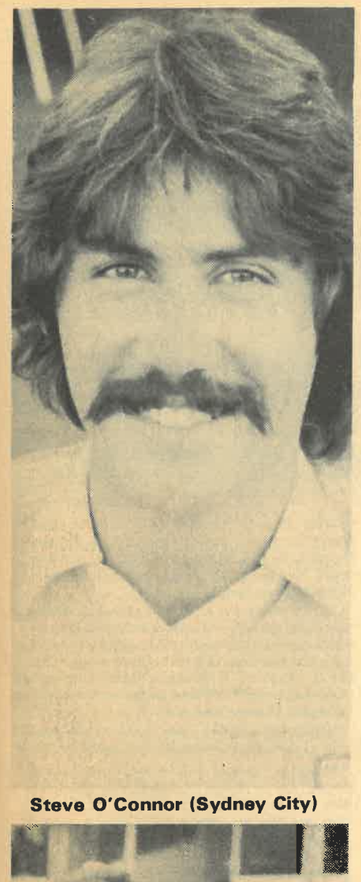
One of the greatest Socceroos, Harry Williams (left), now with Canberra, confronts Eddy Spearritt of Brisbane Lions

HILTON SILVA, winger Sydney City (Hakoah). Joined Hakoah as a 19-year-old in 1971 from Brazil where he had 16 First Division games with the famous Vasco Da Gama club. In his first Sydney season, Silva had a leg broken in a tackle by South Coast's Tuckerman. He recovered, but it wasn't until Gerry Chaldi took over as Hakoah coach in 1976 that Silva against started to show flashes of his finest form. He was back at his very best in 1978 and made his debut for the Socceroos against Wisla Krakow in Sydney.

JOHN STEVENSON, midfielder, Sydney Cith Hakoah. Played for St. Johnstone in Scotland before joining Hakoah in 1974. In his mid-twenties, Stevenson is now eligible for naturalisation. He was tried out by Jim Shoulder in Australia's match against Greece in Melbourne and was a great success. Stevenson has long been one of the key players in the awesome Hakoah team. He is strong, tireless, and imaginative.

PETER STONE, midfielder, APIA. Stone was born in Brisbane but learned his soccer in Newcastle. At the age of 14 he played for Northern NSW against NSW under-16s in the curtain-raiser to the Australia v Israel World Cup qualifying match in Sydney. Prominent coach Les Scheinflug, a former Australian captain, singled Stone out for praise after that game. Scheinflug was later to coach Stone, when both joined Western Suburbs. Stone made his First Division debut at the age of 15 with Newcastle club Adamstown Rosebud whose stars at the time included Col Curran, Ron Giles, Darryl Evans and John Clinton. Stone played his first international match against Hong Kong in Canberra in 1976 in midfield and reappeared as full back against Fiji in 1977. In both games. Australia lost 0-1 which couldn't have given Stone much confidence for the future. However, after many appearances as a substitute, Stone won back a permanent place in the national team and was the Socceroos' finest player in the later stages of the 1977 World Cup qualifying series.

Peter Sharne (Marconi)



Steve O'Connor (Sydney City)

Jim Tansey (Heidelberg)

Sydney Olympic goalkeeper Gary Meier

JIM TANSEY, left back or sweeper, Heidelberg-Alexander. Played for South Liverpool in England and came to Australia in 1974 to join Victorian State League club Slavia. In 1976, his last season with Slavia, he won the Victorian Rothmans Medal, the Bill Fleming Medal as the Player of the Year and the "Soccer Action" award for the best under 23 player. Tansey and Slavia team mate Jim O'Reilly switched to Heidelberg for a total of $14,000 early in 1977, for the inaugural Philips League season. Voted Heidelberg's best and fairest player of 1978. Represented Victoria nine times and played his first match for Australia under Brian Green against the USSR in Melbourne in 1975. Has been a regular squad member ever since. Tansey was selected in the 18-man squad for Australia's World Cup qualifying games against Taiwan in Fiji in early 1977. At the last minute it was discovered he was not naturalised, so he had to be flown from Ba to the Australian High Commission in Suva to take his citizenship oath.

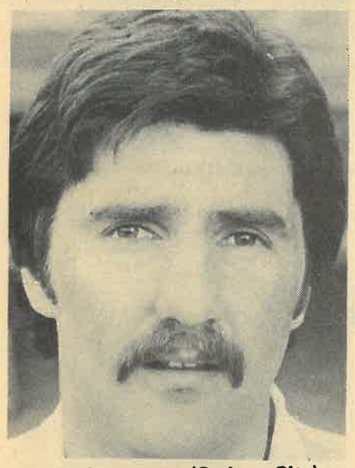
HARRY WILLIAMS, left back, Canberra City. The long-serving St. George player, now with Canberra, missed the entire 1978 season due to injury, but is now on the comeback trail. Williams had played only six senior games for St. George when Rale Rasic included him in the Australian squad for the 1970 world tour. One of the few Aborigines to have made the big-time in soccer, Williams played as a substitute against Chile (0-0) in the 1974 World Cup finals, was on the 1976 world tour and played in the 1977 World Cup qualifying series.

JOHN YZENDOORN, sweeper or full back, Slavia. Won the "Soccer Action" Riversdale Travel award as the best Victorian State League player of 1978 and made his representative debut for Victoria against Wisla Krakow in February, 1979. He was one of the best players on the field in that match, and showed he would be a great asset to the Socceroos although, like many of the other players under consideration, he has been in Australia for only about a year. He comes from England, where he played for Preston North End.

John O'Shea (St. George)

Ian Souness (Syndey City)

Gary Marocchi (Adelaide City)



John Stevenson (Sydney City)

Hilton Silva (Sydney City)

John Yzendoorn (right) of Slavia is congratulated by editor Laurie Schwab on winning "Soccer Action's" 1978 Victorian Player of the Year award

Young lions have time to make amends

Only a few of the members of the Australian under 19 team are left in the running for places in the full Socceroo squad after their failure in the Paraguay qualifying series for the world youth championships.

After the under 19s had won the initial qualifying tournament against Papua New Guinea, Fiji and New Zealand in Auckland, national coach Rudi Gutendorf held high hopes for many of these young lions.

But in Paraguay, many did their reputations harm. Afterwards, Gutendorf expressed confidence only in goalkeeper Greg Woodhouse (APIA), defender or midfielder Steve Hogg (Canberra) attacking midfielder Peter Tredinnick (Newcastle) and midfielder or centre back Theo Selemidis (Fitzroy-Alexander).

Many of the others were not up to the standard expected from Socceroos, Gutendorf said.

However, there is time for them to prove him wrong. Striker Eddie Krncevic and midfielder Alan Davidson should show rapid improvement now that they are playing in the Philips League. Krncevic switched to Marconi from Essendon Croatia (Vic) and Davidson left Altona City (Vic) to join South Melbourne. These are the players Gutendorf used in his under 19 squad:

GOALKEEPERS

GREG WOODHOUSE, APIA, tall and strong, he was Australia's star in the difficult matches in Asuncion, Paraguay. A product of the Western Suburbs juniors, he made his senior debut in the PSL in 1978.

JEFF OLVER, Fitzroy-Alexander (now called Heidelberg). Bought from Victorian State League team Albion Rovers in late 1978. Withdrew from the under 19s just before they went to Paraguay.

PETER WILSON. Sydney Olympic, called into the squad when Olver withdrew.

DEFENDERS

DANNY MOULIS Canberra City, right back, has been a regular member of Canberra's PSL team since the league started in 1977.

STEVE HOGG, Canberra City, full back, centre back or defensive midfielder, voted Canberra's best young player of 1978. Specialises in marking danger men.

MIKE MILOVANOVIC, Canberra City, left back, started his career in senior PSL football in early 1978.

IAN ROWDEN, APIA, stopper, introduced to the Western Suburbs senior PSL team in 1978 as the new partner for the great Peter Wilson. Was one of the players who switched to APIA when APIA took over Western Suburbs.

Members of the Australian under 15 squad in New Zealand for qualifying games in the world youth championship for the Coca-Cola Cup, standing from left: Rudi Gutendorf (coach), Greg Woodhouse, Steve Hogg, Paul Tombidis, Eddie Krncevic, Ian Rowden, Mike Milovanovic, Graham Jennings, Theo Selemidis, Jeff Olver, Joe Vlasits (assistant coach), Peter van Rijn (masseur). Front: Danny Moulis, Craig Hall, Peter Raskopoulos, John Spanos, Alan Davidson, Peter Tredinnick, Ian Hunter, George Christopoulos, Malcolm McClelland.

GEORGE CHRISTOPOULOS, South Melbourne, sweeper or midfielder, joined Souths from Victorian club Coburg. Scored goals as an offensive PSL player but Gutendorf preferred him as a defender.

JOHN SPANOS Adelaide Cty, full back or defensive midfielder, signed by Adelaide City coach Rale Rasic after he had seen him working out with the under 19s.

MICHAEL BOOGART, Newcastle KB United, centre back, like many other under 19s, he was previously in the Australian schoolboys squad that toured North America in 1978.

MIDFIELDERS

THEO SELEMIDIS, Heidelberg United Alexander, can play full back or centre back as well as midfield. Product of the South Melbourne juniors, he was first included in Heidelberg's senior squad in 1977 by the then coach, Jim Adam.

ALAN DAVIDSON, South Melbourne, joined the giant PSL club from Altona City, where he progressed through the junior ranks. Has a big future in PSL football.

PETER RASKOPOULOS, Sydney Olympic, former Rugby player who was introduced to Olympic's senior PSL team at the age of only 16.

PETER TREDINNICK, Newcastle KB United, free-scoring, attacking players who was one of the few successes in Paraguay.

GRAHAM JENNINGS, Sydney Olympic, transferred to the PSL club from Adamstown Rosebuds in March, 1979, after many impressive performances with the under 19s.

MALCOLM McCLELLAND, Newcastle KB United, dropped from the squad before the Paraguay trip after a run-in with Gutendorf.

FORWARDS

IAN HUNTER, Npean (NSW), lack of big-league experience went against him but nevertheless showed a lot of talent.

EDDIE KRNCEVIC, Marconi, made a big impact as a goalscorer when promoted to Essendon Croatia's first team in 1978. Recovered from a broken leg that year to tour America with the Australian schoolboys. Transferred to Marconi for $9000.

CRAIG HALL, Sutherland Shire, two-goal hero of the under 19s' memorable win against Paulo Cesar's Flamengo in Rio de Janeiro.

PAUL TOMBIDIS, Olympic (Perth), fringe player dropped from the squad that went to Paraguay.

PAUL KAY, St. George-Budapest, small but dynamic player who won various best player awards in junior interstate championships.

Qualifying matches in the world youth championships.

AUSTRALIA 9 (Jennings 2, Tredinnick 2, Krncevic 2, Raskopoulos, Moulis, Christopoulos) **PAPUA NEW GUINEA 0.** In Auckland.

Australia: Woodhouse; Hogg (Moulis), Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic; Selemidis, Davidson (Raskopoulos), Tredinnick; Hall, Krncevic, Jennings.

Best players: Tredinnick, Jennings, Raskopoulos.

AUSTRALIA 5 (Krncevic 3 incl 1 pen., Hunter, Tredinnick) **FIJI 1,** in Auckland.

Australia; Woodhouse; Moulis, Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic (Spanos); Selemidis, Davidson, Tredinnick; Hall (Hunter), Krncevic, Jennings.

Best players; Christopoulos, Krncevic, Hunter.

AUSTRALIA 2 (Selemidis, Krncevic) **NEW ZEALAND 1,** in Auckland.

Australia: Woodhouse; Hogg, Rowden, Christopoulos, Spanos; Selemidis, Davidson (sent off 30th min.) Raskopoulos (Milovanovic); Hunter, Krncevic, Tredinnick (Tombidis).

Best players; Selemidis, Woodhouse, Tredinnick.

AUSTRALIA 0 PARAGUAY 2 in Asuncion

Australia: Woodhouse; Moulis, Christopoulos, Rowden, Milovanovic; Selemidis, Krncevic, Hogg; Hunter (Kay), Hall, Jennings (Tredinnick).

AUSTRALIA 0 ISRAEL 0 in Asuncion.

Australia: Woodhouse; Hogg, Christopoulos, Rowden, Milovanovic; Davidson, Selemidis, Kay (Jennings); Hall, Krncevic, Tredinnick.

AUSTRALIA 0 PARAGUAY 3 in Asuncion.

Australia: Woodhouse: Hogg, Rowden, Selemidis, Milovanovic; Davidson (sent off 85th), Spanos, Tredinnick; Hall, Krncevic, Jennings.

AUSTRALIA 0 ISRAEL 0 in Asuncion.

Australia: Woodhouse; Hogg, Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic (Hall); Selemidis, Davidson, Jennings; Hunter, Krncevic, Tredinnick.

Friendly matches

AUSTRALIA 1 (Raskopoulos) **VARDAR SKOPLJE 5** at Middle Park, Melbourne.

Australia: Woodhouse (Olver); Moulis (Hogg), Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic (Spanos); Selemidis, Davidson, Tredinnick (McClelland); Hall (Hunter), Krncevic (Raskopoulos), Tombidis (Jennings)

AUSTRALIA 6 (Tredinnick 2, Jennings 2, Krncevic, Selemidis) **HERTHA 03 ZEHLENDORF 1 in Wollongong.**

Australia: Woodhouse; Moulis, Christopoulos, Rowden, Milovanovic; Selemidis, Davidson, Tredinnick; Hall, Krncevic, Jennings (McClelland, sub. Hogg).

AUSTRALIA 2 (Krncevic 2 incl. pen) **HERTHA 03 ZEHLENDORF 1** in Sydney

Australia: Woodhouse, Moulis (Hogg), Christopoulos, Rowden, Milovanovic, Davidson, Selemidis (Raskopoulos), Tredinnick; Hunter, Krncevic, Jennings

AUSTRALIA 3 (Hall 2, Hunter) **FLAMENGO 2** in Rio de Janeiro.

Australia: Woodhouse; Moulis, Christopoulos, Rowden (Spanos), Milovanovic; Selemidis, Hogg, Kay (Davidson), Hunter, Hall, Jennings.

Appearances in friendly games:

4. Woodhouse, Moulis, Rowden, Christopoulos, Milovanovic, Selemidis, Davidson, Jennings. 3 Hogg, Tredinnick, Hall, Hunter, Krncevic; 2 Spanos, McClelland, Raskopoulos; 1. Olver, Tombidis, Kay

Goals: 3. Krncevic; 2. Tredinnick, Jennings, Hall; 1. Hunter, Raskopoulos, Selemidis.

Apperances in World Youth Championship matches:

7. Woodhouse, Milovanovic, Selemidis, Tredinnick, Krncevic; Rowden; 6. Hogg, Christopoulos, Davidson, Hall, Jennings; 4. Hunter; 3. Moulis, Spanos; 2. Raskopoulos, Kay; 1. Tombidis.

Goals; 6 Krncevic; 3 Tredinnick; 2. Jennings; 1. Raskopoulos, Moulis, Christopoulos, Hunter, Selemidis.

Vlasits, Rasic ushered in the golden age

It took Australia four years to fully overcome the split between the Australian Soccer Federation and its longest-serving national coach, Rale Rasic.

Many of the problems encountered by his successors had their roots in that split.

Rasic had taken the Socceroos to the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany and when he failed to be re-appointed in 1975, there were angry protests from all quarters.

The public knew little about the reasons for the animosity between the ASF and Rasic. It knew only that Rasic had inspired unprecedented success and it saw him as the only possible man for the job.

Rasic also had the support of the Press, which had given him a glamorous image in a sport that had always lacked glamor on this scale. He had always aired his views in newspapers and during the World Cup he also made countless appearances on television.

A man who had never been backward in coming forward, Rasic had emerged as one of Australia's foremost sporting personalities. It was no wonder then, that public sympathy was with him when he was by-passed for the national coach's position in 1975 and again in 1976 and 1978. When one of his successors made a mistake, the inevitable public reaction was: Rasic wouldn't have done that. Selection of players was compared with the selections Rasic would have made.

Most important, Rasic was part of the coaching establishment that also included most of the well-known coaches in Sydney and Melbourne. This establishment was in open conflict with the new Rothmans national coaching scheme led by Eric Worthington, and Rasic's successors, Brian Green and Jim Shoulder, were imported from England as "Worthington men" who would work in the Rothmans scheme. The animosity between old and new thus carried over into matters concerning the national team.

Rudi Gutendorf, appointed in 1978, made a point of avoiding allegance to any particular group. From the start, he sought help from all quarters — from leading club coaches as well as members of the national coaching scheme. He, like Rasic, believes in publicity and image-building, not only for himself but also for the sport as a whole. He has public support, and he is confident that he can inspire the same kind of success that was enjoyed by Rasic and his predecessor Joe Vlastis who between them guided Australia through eight years of international success.

Vlasits took the Socceroos on their unbeaten 10-match tour of Asia in 1967 and led them through the 1969 World Cup qualifying series which they failed to win by only one goal.

Rasic took over at the end of 1970 and took Australia on a world tour and a tour of Asia as preparation for the 1973 World Cup qualifying series, which Ausrralia won to advance to the 1974 finals in West Germany.

The first national coach after Federation in 1961 and after the lifting of Australia's suspension by FIFA in 1963 (see separate story) was Jim Kelly, then player-coach of South Cost United.

Kelly, former wing half of Blackpool, the club of the great Stanley Matthews, made a resounding impact on NSW soccer when he arrived from England to join South Coast on May 7, 1961. At that time, South Coast had yet to gain a competition point, but with Kelly at the helm, the Wollongong club picked up 15 points to finish 10th and boosted its total home crowd from 34,000 in 1960 to 52,000 in 1961. What's more, Kelly was the "Sydney Morning Herald" award for the league's best player. South Coast was to win its first and only First Division championship in 1965. Some thought the club would have clinched the title in 1964, had it not been for Jim Kelly's preoccupation with preparing the Australian squad for its two matches against Everton.

The coaches of the Socceroos since the formation of the ASF:

Jim Kelly 1964-65
Tiko Jelisavcic 1965
Joe Marston 1966
Joe Venglos 1967
Joe Vlasits 1967-70
Rale Rasic 1970-74
Eric Worthington 1975
Tony Boggi 1975
Brian Green 1975-76
Jim Shoulder 1976-78
Rudi Gutendorf 1978-

Joe Vlasits

Kelly picked the finest available players for the Everton series — Ron Lord, Trevor Edwards, Mita Stojanovic, Karl Jaros, Mike Jurecki, Jim Adan etc. — but individual ability was not enough. During its three-year suspension by FIFA, Australia had lost touch with international football. As a result, the Socceroos lost 2-8 in Melbourne and 1-5 in Sydney.

Jim Kelly revolutionised the coaching of juniors in the Wollongong area and has written various books about coaching. The most recent is called "How to Play Soccer", a Jack Pollard Sportsmaster publication.

Tiko Jelisavcic, a former Yugoslav First Division star who became player-coach of Yugal and also coached Hakoah-Easts for a short time, was put in charge of the Australian squad for its 1965 World Cup qualifying games against North Korea and for other games in Asia.

The Socceroos prepared by going into camp for four weeks in the heat of Cairns in Queensland. Although they lost their World Cup games 1-6 and 1-3, the Socceroos won three other matches on tour, and drew one. It was Australia's first venture into Asia and it showed our administrators that Asia was where our soccer future lay.

The biggest success of the tour was a 3-1 victory against Nationalist China (Taiwan), joint winner of the 1965 Merdeka tournament in Kuala Lumpur. Jelisavcic, incidentally played in the Yugal team that won the first Australia Cup in 1962, by beating Budapest 8-1.

The great Joe Marston was appointed coach of the Australian selection for its only game of 1966, against AS Roma of Italy. Marston, who also coached NSW more times than he can remember, is one of the few Australians to have made it as a player in England. After starting with Leichhardt in 1943 at the age of 17, Marston joined English club Preston North End in 1951 and spent four years there. He made 145 English First Division appearances and played 11 Cup games, including the 1954 FA Cup final in which Preston lost 2-3 to West Brom. Marston, a defender, also played for the combined English League team against Scotland at Hampden Park in 1954. After returning to Australia, he won 35 international caps and captained the Socceroos 24 times. He has coached APIA, Western Suburbs and Auburn and is currently at the help of Philip League club Sydney Olympic.

Joe Venglos, who had played for Slovan Bratislava and Czechoslovakia and who was now coach of Prague in Sydney, was appointed Australian coach for the three-match series against Scotland in 1967. Venglos was in Australia for only about three years. He returned to his home country and is now national coach of Czechoslovakia. In January, 1977 Venglos made a brief visit to Australia as part of a FIFA lecture team.

He said at the time that to bridge the gap between junior and senior soccer, the best young players from throughout Australia should be put into elite State squads where they would get expert coaching and games against top opposition. "There are many good juniors being allowed to go to waste in Australia because of the present system," he said.

The reign of Joe Vlasits as national coach started with the 1967 tour of Asia. Vlasits had come to Australia in 1949 from his native Hungary, where he had been a national team selector and youth coach for the Hungarian Football Federation (MLS). He had been a professional player for five years with Nemzeti. Shortly after arriving in Sydney, Vlasits helped to establish a Hungarian-sponsored club which was called Ferencvaros at first, but whose name was later changed to Europa. He was player, president, coach and even masseur of that club. Later he coached Prague when the present NSW Federation boss, Karl Rodny, was club president. From Prague, Vlasits moved to Canterbury, where he made a now legendary contribution to Australian soccer. For it was at Canterbury that Vlasits helped to mould a group of promising young players including John Watkiss, Johnny Warren, Brian Smith, Donny Brown, Barry Salisbury and Dennis Yaager. Warren and Watkiss were only in their teens when Vlasits included them in Canterbury's first team. Both were to become long-serving Socceroos.

During his four seasons with Canterbury, the constructive, throrough and friendly approach of Vlasits to his players resulted in the club winning two championships, one Ampol Cup, one Federation Cup and two minor premiership. In later successes, he steered Prague to the premiership and Ampol Cup and led St George to its first championship. He also coached Pan Hellenic, Bankstown, Yugal, Auburn and Melita Eagles and in 1978 was recalled to St George to lift that club from near the bottom of the ladder to seventh place on the Philips League table.

He helped establish the Soccer Coaches' Federation of NSW, he was State coach many times and in 1977 he formed a NSW State youth squad. He has been NSW Director of Coaching for three years. Now almost 60, Vlasits has no intention of going back to club coaching. It is coaching of young players that he enjoys most, and to this end he assisted national coach Rudi Gutendorf with the Australian under 19 squad.

Vlasits was an immediate success as national coach in 1967, inspiring victory in the Vietnam tournament and bringing his squad back home unbeaten after 10 tour matches. The following players were given their start in the national team while Joe Vlasits was coach:

Roger Romanowicz (SA), George Keith (Vic., NSW), Manfred Schaefer (NSW), Dick van Alphen (Vic.), Ray Richards (Qld. NSW), Billy Vojtek (Vic.), Ron Corry (NSW), Ted DeLyster (SA), Ray Lloyd (NSW), Gary Wilkins (Qld), Danny Walsh (NSW), Adrian Alston (NSW), Gary Manuel (NSW), John Perin (SA), David Zeman (NSW), Willie Rutherford (NSW), Jack Reilly (Vic.), Dennis Yaager (NSW), Peter Wilson (NSW), Jimmy Mackay (Vic.), Gary Quested (NSW), Danny McKinnon (NSW), Jim Armstrong (Vic.), Sandy Irvine (Vic.).

Most of them were on the 1967 tour, others came in for the 1969 World Cup qualifying games and a few, like Reilly, Mackay, Armstrong, Irvine, Quested and McKinnon, were included in the squad for the Friendship Cup tournament in Saigon in early 1970. Vlasits said after that tournament that Jimmy Mackay was assured of a permanent place in the Australian team. Mackay, who had earlier been described by the then Victorian State coach, Rale Rasic, as the best player in Victoria, was to score the goal that put Australia into the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany.

In between tours, Vlasits coached Australia in a series against Japan and Greece at home.

The Rale Rasic era began in late 1970 — an era of unprecedented success which was to end in an unfortunate split between the man and the Federation. Rasic, then 34, had been Victorian State coach for just over a year when he was appointed by the ASF in August, 1970. Some said he was too young, too inexperienced but he made up for these "shortcomings" with his boundless self-confidence and dedication. Rasic came to Australia in 1962 from Yugoslavia where he had played for Vojvodina, Spartak and Borac. He joined Footscray J.U.S.T., won an award as full back of the year in 1963, and was selected to play for Victoria. In 1964 he returned to Yugoslavia for his national service training. He came back in 1966 and after playing in the J.U.S.T. team that won the Ampol Cup, he was loaned to Sydney club Yugal. He retired at the age of only 29 after clashes with the J.U.S.T. committee, but in 1967 he was back as coach of the J.U.S.T. team that came from last to finish in the top four. In 1969 he had his second stint as J.U.S.T. coach and this time the team won the championship. Players of that year included Branko, Buljevic, Cedo Cirkovic, Slobodan Zoraja, Milenko Rusmir, Tommy Stankovic, Milan Mihailovic and Billy Rice.

In 1970, the year that he became national coach, he led Melbourne-Hungaria to second place and the Victorian under 16 team to triumph in the national youth championship.

Rale Rasic (right) is greeted by Prime Minister Gough Whitlam (left) and ASF president Sir Arthur George before the Socceroos' 2-0 win against Uruguay at the Sydney Cricket Ground in 1974.

Rale Rasic is chaired off the pitch by, from left: Ray Richards, Jim Fraser and Jim Milisavljevic after Australia had beaten South Korea 1-0 in Hong Kong to qualify for the 1974 World Cup finals.

Having clinched the national team job, he was also signed as coach of St George, and moved to Sydney. Later he was to coach Pan Hellenic and Marconi, from where he moved to Adelaide City.

Rasic coached Australia in 58 matches unti the end of the 1974 World Cup finals. The Socceroos scored 96 goals to 69 in winning 27 of those matches, drawing 17 and losing 14. Among the most memorable results were 3-1 v. Greece in Athens, 0-0 v. Chile in Berlin, 2-0 v. Uruguay in Sydney, 1-0 v. Israel in Tel Aviv, 3-1 v. Irak in Sydney, 3-0 v. Iran in Sydney and 1-0 v. South Korea in the World Cup tiebreaker in Hong Kong. Another prestigious result was the 2-2 draw with Pele's Santos in Sydney in 1972.

Rasic's style of play was basically defence and counter-attack, and it proved extremely well suited to the players at his disposal. Before the World Cup finals, he said: "We will gear out tactics on defence and on containing the Germans. If we can contain them and get respectable results we will have achieved our objective. As for going out to score lots of goals — forget it. We just can't do this. However, we will open up against Chile in the final game in West Berlin for I think we can win that one."

When there was criticism of Rasic as a coach, it was invariably based on his "defensive" outlook. However, the Socceroos played some memorable attacking soccer under Rasic. Who will forget the performances against Uruguay, Irak, Iran (1970), Wolverhampton Wanderers, Greece and the two 6-0 thrashings of the Philippines and Indonesia?

Rasic announced before the World Cup finals that he would quit upon returning from Germany, so he could spend time studying overseas. However, he changed his mind later, and was a candidate for the national coach's position when it came under consideration in 1975. By then, however, there were strong forces working against him. Many officials had been upset by his brash criticism of the reigning powers. He had spoken out often against lack of professionalism in Australian soccer and bad leadership from the top.

But his most serious row with officialdom came just after the World Cup finals, when he claimed that only half of the bonus money promised to him had been paid. "I was horrifed to discover that the ASF had nothing in writing about our agreement on bonuses," Rasic said. "This is no way to conduct serious business." The ASF denied Rasic's claim, announcing that Rasic had been paid all the money owed to him. The wrangle developed into a personal row between Rasic and ASF president Sir Arthur George.

Yet the story goes that Sir Arthur told Rasic that he would be the front-runner for the national job when a permanent appointment was made in the latter part of 1975, provided he at first agreed to act in a minor capacity, as advisor or assistant, for matches against Legia Warsaw, Glasgow Rangers and others. However Rasic apparently refused to play second fiddle.

And so, the National Director of Coaching, Eric Worthington, was put in charge of the Socceroos for the two matches against Legia Warsaw in early 1975. Rasic was angry that the appointment had been made while he was overseas. He told the Press: "The treatment I received as national coach I would not wish on any person. I fought battles with everyone for four years."

Worthington, who had taken the Australian under 23 team overseas, had arrived in Australia in early 1973 to take up his appointment with the Rothmans sports Foundation. As a player, he served with Queens Park Rangers in the English Third and Second Divisions, with Watford in the Third Division and also played in the Southern League. He was a professional player for 15 years in all, and his positions were centre forward and wing half.

Joe Venglos

Worthington is head of the national coaching scheme. He and his State directors run courses for the preliminary and senior Australian coaching badges. Worthington is extremely well qualified in this role as he was a lecturer at Loughborough College in England for 12 years.

During the two games against Legia (2-2 & 1-2) Worthington introduced Col Bennett as the successor to Manfred Schaefer and also brought in Brendan Grosse, Mike Micevski and Willie McGrotty who, however, returned to the U.K. shortly afterwards. Micevski and Bennett had been in the 40-man preliminary World Cup squad chosen by Rasic in March, 1974.

With matches coming up against Glasgow Rangers, China, Manchester United and Benfica, the ASF appointed Victorian State coach Tony Boggi to take charge of the Socceroos in a caretaker capacity. Boggi was unknown in Sydney, which has long been the power base of the national team. However, his name was synonymous with soccer in Melbourne. The big, amiable Italian started his coaching career together with Rasic at Triestina in 1964 and then switched to Juventus where he coached the reserves until he succeeded Vic Janczyk as senior coach in early 1970.

Socceroos Jack Reilly, Tommy MColl and Sandy Irvine were in the Juventus team then. Other players included State stars Jock Goodwin, George Kinnell, Dino DeMarchi, and Bobby Thomson, and a particularly gifted Welsh midfielder called Gareth Salisbury. With all that talent at his disposal, Boggi set about moulding the best team in Australia, a team that still rates as one of the finest assembled in this country. Juventus won most of the trophies available in Victorian soccer and also the unofficial title of national champion by beating Yugal, winner of the NSW grand final.

Boggi also coached Keilor-Austria, Frankston City, Fitzroy Alexander, Fawkner, and is now back at Juventus. He was appointed State coach in 1973 and led Victoria in its 2-1 win against Bristol Rovers, the State's only victory over an English league team. He also accompanied the Socceroos at the World Cup in West Germany in an unofficial capacity.

While Boggi was national coach, Eric Worthington continued to have a say in which players were included in the Socceroo squad. Of the six new players introduced against China — Todd Clarke, Agenor Muniz, Gary Byrne, Rene Colusso, Murray Barnes and Duncan Cummings — all but Colusso and Cummings had played under Worthington in the Australian under 23 team.

Under Boggi, Australia played five matches in just over two months, beating Glasgow Rangers and China and drawing with Benfica. Results were: v Rangers 1-2 and 1-0; v Manchester United 0-4, v China 1-0, v Benfica 2-2.

The appointment of Brian Green in August, in 1975 marked the start of a most turbulent period for all concerned with the national team. The NSW Federation was angry over the way he had been appointed, many of Australia's leading coaches believed that a local appointment would have been far more sensible than hiring a man from the English Fourth Division. The "old school" of coaching was angry at being eclipsed by Worthington's "new school", for Worthington had advised the ASF on the appointment of Green. But these rumblings were hardly noticeable compared with the uproar of indignation when Green was convicted of shoplifting and when another "unknown", Jim Shoulder, was appointed to succeed him.

Let's break the furore down into chronological order.

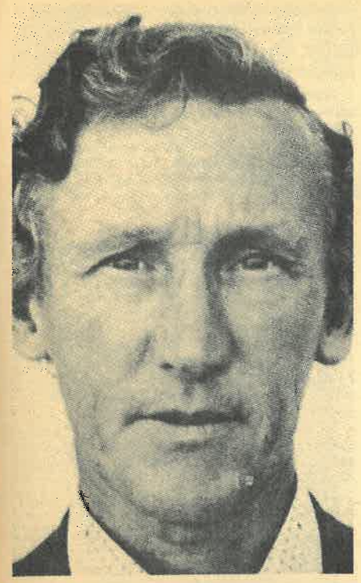
After ASF president Sir Arthur George had interviewed Green in London and found him acceptable, the British Press found out and ran the story, which found its way via international wire services, to newspapers in Australia. The NSW Federation complained bitterly that it had not been given the chance to be in on the interview, although the successful applicant was to be NSW Director of Coaching as well as national coach. The ASF claimed in reply that it had a mandate from the States to make an appointment.

The Sydney newspaper "Soccer World" recalled that Green played for Prague without distinction in 1964. Green got his first game after the 7th round of the season, Prague lost 1-2 and "Soccer World" gave Green a lowly rating of 2 out of six for the match. The following week, in another 1-2 loss by Prague, Green played his last game in Australia and, in once again awarding a 2-point rating, "Soccer World" wrote: "Newcomer Green was especially responsible for creating hopeless confusion in the Prague forward line.. Green was then dropped and returned to England in July to attend his father's funeral. Prague had to lodge a 140 pound bond to the Immigration Department as Green had come to Australia as an asisted migrant. He did not return . . . that is, not until 1975 when he arrived as Australia's new national coach.

But Green's credentials as a coach were quite impressive. After having led Chester to promotion from the Fourth to the Third Division and to a 3-0 victory over Leeds United in the League Cup, Green was named Coach of the Year by the Football League Coaches' and Trainers' Association. He was continually called upon by the English Football Asociation to staff and administer preparatory qualifying courses throughout the north-west. In 1965 Manchester-born Green toured South America with an official party of FA coaches. He also completed a football management course at Loughborough College. Green was recommended to the ASF by Sir Matt Busby, former Manchester United manager, who said Green would be a first-class appointment.

Brian Green, then 40, blew into Australia like a tornado. With the cocky self-confidence of a Muhammad Ali, he announced to his first Press conference: "I think the Australian Soccer Federation has picked the best man in England for the job."

"I'm a winner," he added. "I have not come 12,000 miles to fail. I'm a man who doesn't fail.



Eric Worthington

I'm a positive thinker. My track record is good after nine years as a coach and 15 years as a player in all four divisions and in nine positions on the field. I've had a long apprenticeship.

"I'm supremely confidence."

The words of the former Sheffield Wednesday centre forward could easily have been those of Rale Rasic who once said: "I have always believed I can do things better than anyone else."

Green was aware that he had opposition from various quarters, and he said: "I don't like being prejudged. Let me get on with the job, then judge me on my results."

Australia faced a five-match series against the USSR in November and because there was so little time, Green relied on Worthington to pick the national squad. The newcomers in it were Ray Ilott of Western Australia, John Nyskohus of South Australia, Jim Tansey of Victoria and John Russell and Rudolfo Gnavi of NSW. Gnavi, like Muniz, was not naturalised at the time, yet the USSR games were billed as full internationals. The Socceroos played some encouraging attacking football in this series and Clarke, Byrne and Barnes emerged as valuable men.

In early 1976, Green's men played a 2-2 draw with Velez Mostar of Yugoslavia but while all was well on the field, the likeable Green was having his troubles in other areas. First the NSW Federation decided to stop paying $3500 a year towards Green's salary. The contribution had been intended as payment for Green's duties as NSW Director of Coaching but the Federation said that neither the ASF nor Green himself knew what he was supposed to be doing in that capacity.

Just before NSW announced the "sacking", Brian Green appeared in court on a charge of having stolen two LP records from a store in Sydney. He was convicted and newpapers throughout Australia ran the story.

From that point, he was under intense pressure.

Although Sir Arthur George and the players announced publicly that they stood behind Green, other people did not react as kindly. The matter was brought up everywhere he went, there were countless jokes about how a coach should be "judged on his record", and inevitably, Green returned to England in late March, 1976, leaving the ASF to issue a statement after he had left. It read:

"Soccer followers will recall that Mr Green was recently involved in court proceedings relating to a relatively minor offence. The president of the Australian Soccer Federation, Sir Arthur George, supported by his executive, had agreed to overlook the matter, but continuing pressures from many sources have affected Mr Green's health. In his letter of resignation to the Federation, Mr Green stated that these pressures had left him mentally drained and that if he had continued in the position of national coach, his health would have suffered further."

Green had been disillusioned for some time before his departure. In a weekly column he wrote in "Soccer Action", Green expressed disappointment in the whole set-up of soccer in Australia. He was disappointed that the national league was not to kick off as scheduled that March. The national league had been one of the reasons for him taking the job and in this regard he mentioned people "speaking with forked tongue".

Australia scored 10 goals to 12 in winning two, drawing four and losing three of the nine games it played under Brian Green. Now the national coaching position was again vacant.

Speculation started straight away. Would Rale Rasic be returned or would the job go to the heavily-supported Western Australian State coach, Alan Vest? Johnny Warren was a possibility and Mike Laing, coach of Western Suburbs, had also applied. There were a couple of applicants from England and the pool also included Jim Shoulder, the recently-appointed coaching director for the Australian Capital Territory.

There were 23 applicants in all, so Sir Arthur asked Eric Worthington to draw up a short list for the ASF executive's consideration. Worthington supplied seven names — Rasic, Warren, Shoulder, Vest, two Englishmen and a visiting Polish coach. The ASF then reduced the short list to four — Rasic, Warren, Shoulder and Vest. Worthington was asked about each of the candidates and the executive interviewed the four men, after which Rasic and Warren were eliminated in separate ballots.

In the final vote, Shoulder emerged triumphant, 17 votes to 7. The least likely candidate, a 29-year-old with little experience as a team coach, was Australia's new supremo. The soccer world was staggered. Sir Arthur George was fuming, for right after the final ballot, a NSW delegate had apparently turned to him and said: "You got the coach you deserve." Sir Arthur was reported later in the Press as saying: "If NSW had not voted for Shoulder, he would have been beaten 13-11 by Vest." It was reported that Sir Arthur and Worthington had looked upon Vest as the best candidate. NSW voted against Vest after having been unsuccessful in getting either Rasic or Warren appointed.

Both Rasic and Warren made angry statements to the Press over their rejection by the ASF. Warren said he was disillusioned with Australian soccer, Rasic said things about Victorian delegate Michael Weinstein that prompted Weinstein to threaten legal action. Former Victorian director of coaching Ken Kontra said the appointment of Shoulder would make Australia "the laughing stock of the world." St George president Alex Pongrass said: "It's a disgraceful decision, and one that must be revoked as soon as possible."

Young Jim Shoulder was the innocent pawn in this political game. The first to defend himwere men close to the Rothmans national coaching scheme, men like Tim White and Ian Petherick of Victoria. Shoulder's first announcement was that he would continue the work started by Brian Green. His aim was to encourage an attractive style of attacking soccer. Shoulder held a degree in Sociology from Durham University in England and had gained his senior FA coaching badge at the age of 21. He then

Tony Boggi

became a staff coach with the FA and helped run coaching courses throughout England. His playing career ended in early 1975 due to a serious knee injury. He had been a left back with Hartlepool in the Fourth Division, Sunderland in the Second Division and Scarborough in the Northern Premier League. Now he was national coach of Australia, a job that carried a salary of $16,500 plus car and expenses.

Tottenham Hotspur and Sunderland presented Shoulder with his first tests. Against Spurs, Australia led before losing 2-3. Against Sunderland, the Socceroos lost 3-4 in Sydney and drew 0-0 in Melbourne.

After Australia had won its next match, 2-1 against Hearts of Midlothian, Shoulder outlined his philosophy in "Soccer Action." He wrote in his weekly column: "The aim is to surround the ball when the opponents get it — to cover up and not let the ball out, and to get in a position to win it or intercept.

"When we get the ball, the aim is to play it wide and then cross. Our strength is going forward. We've got the players who can get on the end of the ball and put it away.

"Our weakness is defending, which was proved in the first two matches against Spurs and Sunderland. We looked a much better side when we were going forward. In defence, we've tended to isolate players. A man would go out and would be left in a one-against-one situation without cover. When an opponent comes towards us, we should have two men facing him, not one, with the midfielders coming back fast. We were doing it in the first two matches but we were doing it hesitantly and we were caught short. In the other games it worked a lot better. What I am looking for from players is flexibility. I want a minimum of specialists in the team because specialists cause headaches when they are injured, for you then need a similar specialist to fill in.

"I want everyone to understand the requirements of a team player — an all-rounder who is flexible on the field. We base the overall strategy on this principle but of course we utilise the various strengths of individual players. For example, Jimmy Rooney plays a little behind the other midfielders because he can read the game well and his defensive qualities are good, whereas he lacks a little pace. Dave Harding's strength is going forward, so I encourage him to do so. Agenor Muniz has a free run. He uses the assets he has — his ball play, his ability to pass the long ball, his tricks and mobility."

Brian Green

Jim Shoulder

Shoulder added it was essential that he put together the best possible squad available in Australia. However, there was evidence later that he did not do this. Commentators throughout Australia were asking why Victoria's Branko Buljevic was not included in a forward line of limited flair and why Ray Richards was not brought into midfield when it became obvious that this was a problem area.

Against Hearts, Shoulder had introduced young centre back Richie Bell of Sydney Olympic. South Australia's John Kosmina was given his first chance against Bologna in Adelaide. Australia won that game 3-0, with Bell scoring one of the goals.

When Hong Kong visited for two international matches, various national team players were unavailable for the first game in Canberra. As a result, Shoulder used Kevin Mullen, Peter Stone, John Davies and Phil O'Connor of NSW and Mendo Ristovski and Duncan Cummings of Victoria. He was admired for giving the young players a go, but criticised for dropping them again after they had lost 0-1 in Canberra.

He made up for it, though, by calling upon various other young players. Gary Marocchi, for example, came in for the world tour of late 1976, Peter Stone was included for the World Cup campaign of 1977 and Peter Sharne first appeared in the "World of Soccer" tournament against Glasgow Celtic, Red Star and Arsenal.

Shoulder's last assignment before returning to England mid-way through 1978, was to prepare the Socceroos for three matches against Greece. In this series he gave many new players their big chance. They included Peter Lauments, Chris Kalafatidis, Steve Kokoska, Joe Picioane, George Christopoulos, Mendo Ristovski, Gary Cole (Vic), John Davies, John Stevenson, Phil O'Connor, Gary Meier, John O'Shea, Joe Senkalski, Sebastian Giampaolo (NSW) and Savro Iozelli and Steve Perry (Qld).

Shoulder copped much of the blame for Australia's failure to qualify for the 1978 World Cup finals. Certainly he could have strengthened the squad by the addition of men like Buljevic and Richards, but any way you look at it, the squad could by no means have been as strong as the one that represented Australia from 1967 to 1974. Mistakes were made on the field, but according to vice-captain Jimmy Rooney it is the players who should be blamed, not Jim Shoulder.

Rale Rasic once again emerged as a candidate when the ASF sought to fill the vacancy left by "Smiling Jim" as Shoulder had become known. Sir Arthur George and Rasic were reported to have ironed out their differences and Sir Arthur was said to have nothing against the appointment of Rasic.

However, seven weeks before Rasic's name came up, "Soccer Action" reported that West German Rudi Gutendorf was almost certain to get the job. Indeed, Gutendorf's appointment was confirmed in late July. He came with the reputation of a globetrotter but also with a solid background of coaching top teams, including Schalke, Duisburg, Hamburg and Tennis Borussia in West Germany, Sporting Crystal in Peru, FC Lucerne in Switzerland, the St Louis Stars in the US and the Chilean national team. Kevin Keegan, Benny Wendt and Helmut Rahn are only three of the champions who have played under Gutendorf.

Gutendorf was full of ideas when he arrived in Australia. He would encourage attacking football, he said, and he made a long list of recommendations for changes to the Philips League competition.

He started his reign by taking the national under 19 team to victory in the World Youth Championship qualifying series in New Zealand late in 1978, but the young Socceroos failed in the next qualifying round, against Paraguay and Israel.

Gutendorf is à tough, merciless taskmaster who demands granite-like toughness from his players. His push towards Spain '82 is gathering momentum.

Australia's most capped player pre-Fedeation was Joe Marston of NSW, according to records compiled by soccer historian Sid Grant.

Grant, a soccer writer with Australian newspapers for more than 35 years and a former national team selector, is one of the few men with accurate data about the Socceroo pioneers.

According to his figures, Marston played 35 games for Australia. 24 of them as captain. Kev O'Neill, a product of Northern NSW, is next with 33 games.

Joe Marston is the only national team captain to have become national coach (for the 1-1 draw with AS Roma in 1966). He is now coach of Philips League club Sydney Olympic, having previously coached APIA, Wests and Auburn. Apart from having coached Australia, he has often led NSW as well.

Marston joined Leichhardt at the age of 17 in 1943 and represented NSW for the first time at 21. He went to England in 1951 and spent four years with Preston North End, making 145 league and 11 cup appearances.

He played for the combined English League against Scotland at Hampden Park in 1954, the same year Preston lost 2-3 to West Bromwich Albion in the FA Cup final.

KEV O'NEILL captained Australia in two Test matches against Hearts of Midlothian in 1959 and he was, according to Sid Grant, the "iron man" of Australia's 1950 tour of South Africa. O'Neill made 512 first grade appearances in a career spanning almost 20 years. In Northern NSW he played for Cessnock, Kurri Kurri, West Wallsend and Lake Macquarie, Like Marston, O'Neill was a defender. He was the first Newcastle star to move to Sydney after Federation, and he had two successful seasons with Prague.

Other pre-Federation stars included:

JACK EVANS, ranks with Marston and O'Neill as one of Australia's greatest defenders. Born in Australia, he started with the old Aberdare team in Newcastle before moving to Sydney where he played for Goodyear, Metters and Leichhardt-Annandale in the thirties, and also represented NSW. A fiery, red-headed, powerfully-built player, he was nick-named "Digger."

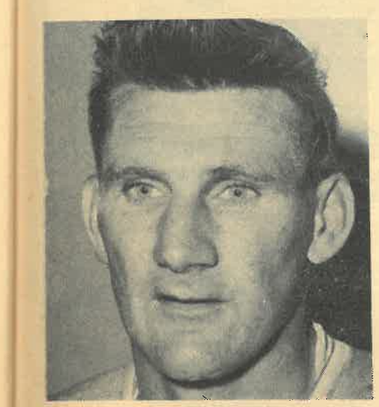
GORDON NUNN, the greatest international player produced by Queensland. A centre forward from the St. Helens club in Ipswich. Nunn was the star of Australia's 1950 tour of South Africa and with 18 goals, he was one of the top scorers of the pre-Federation Socceroos.

JACK HUGHES, thrilled a crowd of 40,000 at the Sydney Cricket Ground by scoring in the fifth Test against the English Amateurs only 10 seconds after the kick-off in 1937. It was one of 19 goals he scored for Australia in an international career spanning 19 games. One of four soccer-playing brothers, Jack Hughes came to Sydney from northern NSW, to play for Metters.

BOB BIGNALL, a product of the NSW south coast, Bignall represented Australia 20 times and was national captain for the 1956 Olympic Games tournament. He played 424 senior club games in his 15 - year career.

FRANKIE LOUGHRAN, born in Belfast where he had a short spell with Bangor before emigrating to Melbourne. In his first Victorian season, with the Moreland club, he represented both Australia and Victoria. Only 5ft. 4ins. tall, Loughran scored one of Australia's goals in its 2-0 victory over Japan in the 1956 Olympic Games. After having played against touring Blackpool in 1958, Loughran was praised by none other than the great Stanley Matthews, No.1 drawcard of the Blackpool team. Like Matthews, Loughran continued playing well past the age at which most others hang up their boots. His last 14 years – until he "officially" retired in 1975 – were spent with Victorian Metropolitan

MARSTON THE GREATEST OF THE PIONEERS



Joe Marston

League club Coburg of which he then became team manager. Yet still he could not stay off the pitch, so he turned out every Sunday morning with Leyland in the Industrial League. Now close to 50 Loughran still has the same appetite for the game that he had during his years as an international.

BOB LAWRIE, like Joe Marston, Lawrie went to England to try his luck and had a short spell there with Portsmouth. Lawrie did well in the Ipswich schools competition in Queensland before following his brothers into the senior ranks of Bundamba Rovers. A right - half, he played for a while with Leichhardt in Sydney and captained Australia for the 1950 tour of South Africa. He was also captain for three games against China.

CEC DRUMMOND, national captain in nine games, this excellent albeit slight full back, toured New Zealand in 1948 and South Africa in 1950 as part of his 18-match international career. A product of the West Sydney juniors, he played for Drummoyne, Grace Brothers and Leichhardt-Annandale.

ROY CROWHURST, a brilliant right winger who emerged from the Canterbury juniors in Sydney and who burst into senior ranks in 1928 when the first NSW State League was formed. He toured New Zealand in 1932 and New Caledonia in 1933 and was outstanding against the English Amateurs in 1937. Crowhurst played his club soccer with Metters.

JIMMY McNABB, in "Soccer Records", published by Jack Pollard, Sid Grant writes about this geat Australian goalkeeper: "Early with Weston, he won interstate selection as a back, but a serious injury to his right ankle changed everything for this agile miner. Desperate to stay in the game, he turned to goalkeeping and within two seasons he was right on top. McNabb was reared in a tough school. His uncle Bill was a boxer who taught Les Darcy; his father, Jack, a road cyclist on rough country roads and his sister, Esme, a leading fast bowler and slogger at vigoro. He was tailor made for the job of 'keeper. He had hands like Rodney Marsh; eyes like Greg Chappell and the movement of a leopard. He trained until his reflexes were superb. On the field he let everyone know that he was king of the penalty box. He could kick the ball over 70 yds, punch it 50 yds, throw it 40 yds – that was his strength. He won international and State honors and every worthwhile trophy in the game."

TOM JACK, had experience in top-class English soccer before coming to Australia in the late forties to join Melbourne club Hakoah. Together with men like Harry Sutherland and Jackie Ressler, Jack was a major influence in Hakoah's "Golden Decade," the fifties. He later became Hakoah's coach.

BRUCE MORROW, this great winger, a product of Wallsend, played also for APIA, Auburn and Newcastle Austral where he was player-coach. He represented Australia against FK Austria, Ferencvaros and Eastern Athletic in 1957, Blackpool in 1958, Hearts in 1959 and had his farewell match for the Socceroos against Scotland in Melbourne in 1967. He had the knack of scoring in almost every representative match in which he played.

JIM WILKINSON, at 5ft. 2ins and 8st. 12lb., this tricky winger is the smallest man to have played for Australia. Despite his lack of size or brawn, he managed to score 10 goals in his 16 games for the Socceroos. This New South Welshman may have been small, but he relished big occasions. He played a record 552 club matches with Weston, Mayfield United and Kurri.

ALEX CAMERON, born in England, he came to Australia as a boy and learned all his soccer with Adamstown in Northern NSW. He played senior soccer at 15 and represented Australia at 17. He captained Australia on the 1936 tour of New Zealand.

CLIFF ALMOND, versatile player from Cessnock (NSW). Early in his career he had a spell with North Sydney but returned to Cessnock. To improve his game, he went overseas for coaching and for trials with Aston Villa, Newcastle United and then Stirling Albion which signed him. He played a season with Stirling Albion on the right wing. Back in Australia he switched to defence and finished his career with 439 clubs games in Australia, 25 in Scotland and 15 appearances for Australia.

GEORGE SMITH, a powerful centre forward who weighed almost 15 stone and was taller than 6ft. Historian Sid Grant credits Smith with 30 international goals, which makes him easily the top scorer of the pre-Federation Socceroos. He was born in the small NSW mining town of Coledale and scored just on 600 goals with Corrimal, St. George, Granville and Metters. Later to join the NSW Police Force, Smith captained both Australia and NSW.

NORMAN CONQUEST, this goalkeeper with the quaint name joined Northern NSW club Aberdare from the Kearsley Juniors. Later he played for Wollongong, Goodyear and Leichhardt-Annandale and was on Australia's 1950 South Africa tour. It was Conquest who gave the great Ron Lord his early coaching.

RON LORD, born in Australia, Lord played 399 games with Drummoyne, Auburn and Prague, represented Australia nine and NSW more than 20 times. Lord was a full back until he got a bad knock to the ankle at the age of 17. Soon after, he was at Drummoyne's ground to watch the club's second team play. Its goalkeeper failed to turn up, so Lord went into goal and ended up playing in that position for the rest of his career. Eighteen months later, Lord was in Drummoyne's first team. In 1959, 1960 and 1961 he played in the Prague team that won three successive championships. His international career had begun before his transfer to Prague and he had played for Australia in the

Bob Bignall

Bruce Morrow

1956 Olympic Games. Lord's playing career ended in 1965 when he was 35. During his 13 years of representative soccer with Australia and NSW, he played against many teams including Everton, England, FK Austria, China, South Africa, New Zealand, Fiji, Rapid Vienna and New Caledonia.

REG DATE, scored nine goals in his eight internationals – an achievement typical of Australia greatest marksman. Reg Date scored a total of 1616 goals during his long career – 664 of them in senior ranks, with Wallsend and Canterbury. English clubs tried five times to lure Date away from Australia but each time, he decided to stay put. There was a storm of protest from soccer fans when Date was omitted from the national squad that toured South Africa in 1950. Before the squad was selected, he scored six goals in a trial game which NSW won 7-1, yet he was left out. In an interview with Keith Gilmour of "Soccer World" in 1973, Date said: "It was politics all the way." Sid Grant blames "pettiness by some officials", adding that Date's omission "offended all right-thinking fans in all parts of Australia." When the Australians returned from South Africa, having beaten the Springboks two Tests to one, they turned out against NSW at the Sports Ground. Date was in the NSW team and he scored a hat-trick against the outclassed tourists!

JUDY MASTERS, an Illawarra coal miner for 40 years, and one of the legendary greats of Australian soccer, Masters captained Australia, the NSW South Coast and Balgownie and led an AIF team that was formed in France when peace came in 1918. He played for Balgownie from 1901-11. Newtown 1912-13 and Granville 1914-15. He returned from the war in 1919 and went on to play for Australia 13 times and complete his club career after more than 400 matches.

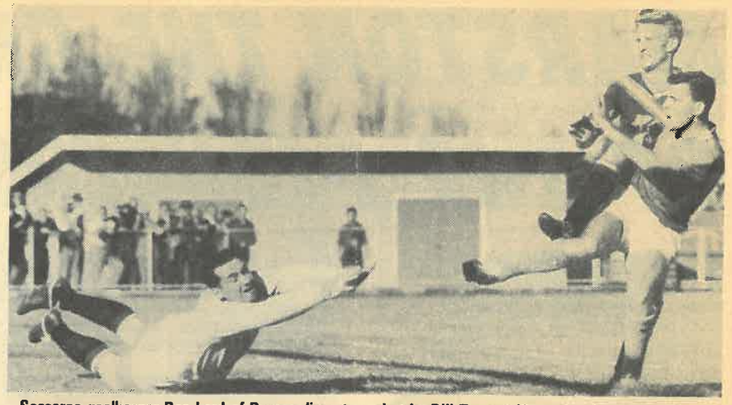
ALF QUILL, holds the record for the most goals scored in NSW senior soccer – 868 from 1927 to 1949. He played only seven games for Australia and scored eight goals. Quill played for Wallsend, Goodyear and Annandale. He was league top scorer in 1932, '33, '36, '37, '38, '39, '43 and '45.

BILL COOLAHAN, captained Australia in 1937 for a triumphant three-match series against the visiting English Amateurs. Australia won two games, 5-4 and 4-3, and lost one, 0-4. A tough half back or full back, Coolahan was a product of West Wallsend Bluebells and also played for Adamstown and Speers Point. He was known as "Bill the Lion Hearted."

ALEX HEANEY, Socceroo captain three times against South Africa in 1947. A product of Northern NSW where he played all his 358 senior matches in a career lasting from 1935 to 1960. His clubs were West Wallsend, Newcastle City, Swansea-Belmont, Lake Macquarie, Cessnock and Cardiff.

BILL MAUNDERS, former national captain who scored three goals in his six internationals. An all-time great of Northern NSW, this fine centre forward came from a footballing family. In 10 seasons, he scored more than 500 club goals and in his youth he was also a good professional runner.

SID THOMAS, played eight games for Australia in the fifties, yet did not take up soccer until he was 18. Thomas came to Melbourne at the age of 20 as a migrant and on his first Saturday in this country, he played in Brighton's third team. The following week he was promoted to the seconds and played two games before advancing to the seniors. Brighton won the Dockerty Cup that year and finished runner-up in the league. He joined Hakoah in 1954 and again received a Cup winner's medal after his new team had beaten Footscray City 7-2 in the final. A non-drinker and non-smoker, he trained three times a week in an era when that amount of training was unheard of. He also played golf and tennis. He was a regular Victorian representative



Socceroo goalkeeper Ron Lord of Prague dives to a shot by Bill Travers (Canterbury) who is tackled by Stuart Sherwin.

from 1953 and was chosen for the 1956 Australian Olymic squad, although he played in neither of the two Olympic matches. A half back, Thomas scored two goals in his eight internationals.

Appearances for Australia pre-Federation (internationals and Test matches):

Matches	Goals	
35		J. MARSTON, NSW
33		K. O'NEILL, NSW
27		J. EVANS, NSW
27	18	G. NUNN, QLD
20		R. BIGNALL, NSW
19	5	HARRY ROBERTSON, NSW
19	19	J. HUGHES, NSW
18	5	R. CROWHURST, NSW
18		C. DRUMMOND, NSW
18	4	F. LOUGHRAN, VIC
18	2	R. LAWRIE, QLD
18		C. SANDOR, QLD
17		J. McNABB, NSW
16		T. JACK, VIC.
16		G. CARTWRIGHT, NSW
16	2	J. LENNARD, NSW
16	5	B. MORROW, NSW
16	10	J. WILKINSON, NSW
15		W. WILSON, NSW
15	6	A. JOHNS, NSW
15	14	A. CAMERON, NSW
15	1	C. ALMOND, NSW
14	1	L. GIBB, QLD
14		W. HENDERSON, NSW
14		J. PARKES, NSW
14	3	T. THOMPSON, NSW
13	30	G. SMITH, NSW
13		J. OSBORNE, NSW
13	12	J. MASTERS, NSW
12		N. CONQUEST, NSW
12	7	R. HUGHES, NSW
12	2	G. McMILLAN, QLD
11	4	S. KITCHIN, QLD
11	1	W. COOLAHAN, NSW
10		S. BOURKE, NSW
10	1	R. BRYANT, NSW
10	4	P. LENNARD, NSW
10		J. PETTIGREW, NSW
10		H. SPURWAY, NSW
10	4	C. STEWART, NSW
10		G. STOREY, NSW
10		R. YOUNG, NSW
9	3	S. WYLD, QLD
9	1	M. WYNN, NSW
9		A. WARREN, QLD
9		H. MURDOCK, NSW
9		R. LORD, NSW
9	1	C. KITCHIN, QLD
8	6	J. CUNNINGHAM, NSW
8	9	R. DATE, NSW
8	2	E. HULME, NSW
8		W. MORGAN, NSW
8		A. MURRAY, QLD
8		R. McNAUGHTON, NSW
8		C. O'CONNOR, NSW
8	16	F. PARSONS, NSW
8		L. RUYTER, VIC.
8		G. SANDERS, NSW
8	2	S. THOMAS, VIC
7	5	B. VOLGER, QLD
7	8	A. QUILL, NSW
7		A. McCABE, STH AUST
7		F. GALLEN, NSW
6		A. DRENNAN, VIC
6		A. GIBB, QLD
6	1	K. LEARMOUTH, NSW
6		J. MATHER, STH AUST
6	3	W. MAUNDERS, NSW
6		T. OLIVER, NSW
6		F. PAGINI, STH AUST
6	6	W.PRICE, NSW
6		N. RULE, QLD
6	1	D. WARD, QLD
6		D. WENDT, NSW
5	3	R. NEAL, NSW
5	4	W. MURPHIE, NSW
5	1	R. KEMP, NSW
5		J. HODGE, NSW
5	1	A. HENDERSON Snr., NSW
5		A. HEANEY, NSW
5		A. GARSIDE, NSW
4	1	R. ADAIR, WEST AUST
4	1	A. DePAOLI, NSW
4	1	J. DONALDSON, QLD
4		P. DOYLE, NSW
4		E. DRAIN, NSW
4		E. DUFF, NSW
4		A. EDWARDS, NSW
4		A. FISHER, NSW
4		A. FORREST, VIC
4	1	H. GORRING, QLD
4		L. HEARNE, NSW
4	1	C. HIGGINS, QLD
4		A. HOUGH, NSW
4		C. LEADBEATER, NSW
4		F. MILLER-SMITH, NSW
4		A. PARK, QLD
4	5	HERB ROBERTSON, NSW
3		R. WEMYSS, VIC
3		J. WHITE, QLD
3		J. WALLACE, NSW
3		R. WALKER, VIC
3		L. VELLA, VIC
3		T. TRAYNOR, QLD
3		F. SHERRINGHAM, NSW
3		C. SHENDON, QLD
3		S. ROBINSON, NSW
3		L. PIERCEY, VIC
3		H. PARKES, NSW
3		E. OWENS, NSW
3		J. McMAHON, NSW
3		D. McLEAN, STH AUST
3		H. McKISSOCK, NSW
3		W. MITCHELL, QLD
3		R. MARSHALL, NSW
3		W. MAHONEY, NSW
3	10	W. LONERGAN, NSW
3	1	D. HODGSON, VIC
3		E. HEYDON, VIC
3		A. HENWOOD, NSW
3		J. HARDEN, NSW
3	2	F. HANCOCK, NSW
3		T. HARRIS, NSW
3		C. GREENFIELD, NSW
3	1	A. GILTRAP, STH AUST
3	2	J. GILMOUR, NSW
3		C. GEDDES, QLD
3		A. FAULKNER, TAS & STH AUST
3		W. DANE, NSW
3		D. CUMBERFORD, QLD
3		F. COOLAHAN, NSW
3		P. CUBERO, VIC
3		R. BROWN, NSW
3		JOHN BARR, NSW
3		G. ARTHUR, NSW
2		D. DeBARLETO, STH AUST
2		L. BAILEY, NSW
2	1	C. BRITTAIN, QLD
2	4	L. CLARK, QLD
2		D. COOTE, NSW
2		C. COUTTS, NSW
2		I. DAVIDSON, NSW
2	3	JACK DRINKWATER, NSW (Cessnock)
2		A. DUNCAN, QLD
2		T. EDWARDS, QLD
2		J. HAMILTON, QLD
2		A. HARRIS, NSW
2		C. HARRIS, QLD
2	1	F. HEARN, NSW
2		E. HODGE, NSW
2	1	W. HUME, NSW
2		J. JENKINS, NSW
2		A. KATHAGE, QLD
2	1	W. KITCHEN, QLD
2		A. LAMBERT, NSW
2		A. MARSHALL, QLD
2		G. MUNCASTER, NSW
2		R. MURRAY, NSW
2		W. McDOUGALL, QLD
2		J. ORR, VIC
2		T. PARRY, QLD
2	2	A. PHILLIPS, NSW
2		J. ROBERTSON, QLD
2		G. ROBINSON, VIC
2		T. ROWLES, NSW
2	1	G. RUSSELL, NSW
2		F. SANDS, NSW
2		V. SHARP, STH AUST
2		E. SMITH, VIC
2		F. SMITH, NSW
2		P. STONE, NSW & STH AUST
2		R. TAYLOR, VIC
2	1	A. WHITE, STH AUST
2		H. WHITELAW, NSW
2	1	C. WILLIAMS, NSW
2		W. WILLIAMS, NSW
2		J. LOVE, QLD
1		B. YOUNG, NSW
1		J. WRIGHT, STH QUST
1		J. WILSON, VIC
1		J. WHITELAW, NSW
1		D. WEST, WEST AUST
1		W. WESTERVELD, VIC
1		G. WEIR, VIC
1		J. WALLS, STH AUST
1		B. WALKER, STH AUST
1		L. VEITRAL, QLD
1		T. VELLA, VIC
1		A. VEIGAL, NSW
1	1	K. VAIREY, NSW
1		A. TOLFER, QLD
1		T. TENNANT, NSW
1		A. TEECE, NSW
1		J. TAYLOR, NSW
1		L. SUCHANEK, STH AUST
1		J. STORER, TAS.
1		D. STEWART, WEST AUST
1		R. STEEL, QLD
1		L. STEDMAN, NSW
1		R. SMITH, VIC
1	1	J. SMITH, NSW
1		L. SHERWIN, NSW
1		L. SCHEINFLUG, NSW
1		B. SALISBURY, NSW
1		A. ROTH, VIC
1		G. ROWE, STH AUST
1		G. ROE, NSW
1		D. RODERICK, QLD
1		J. ROBINSON, VIC
1		H. RICE, VIC
1		A. RATTRAY, TAS.
1		F. RAMSAY, NSW
1		W. RAITH, VIC
1		L. QUESTED, NSW
1		L. PURSER, STH AUST
1		A. POWELL, VIC
1		E. PETIE, QLD
1		H. PETERSEN, VIC
1		P. PETERS, NSW
1		J. PEEBLES, QLD

Jack Evans

Matches	Goals	
1		W. PADDOCK, NSW
1		E. OWEN, QLD
1		J. O'MALLEY, STH AUST
1		J. O'BRIEN Snr, NSW
1		J. O'BRIEN Jnr, NSW
1		E. NUNN, QLD
1		S. NORTH, NSW
1		C. NICHOLS, NSW
1		T. WATTERS, NSW
1		I. McIVER, VIC
1		J. McCLOSKY, VIC
1		J. McCROAREY, NSW
1	1	M. MUELLER, NSW
1		J. MOORE, NSW
1		H. MAUNDERS, NSW
1		A. MASCORD, NSW
1	1	J. MANNION, NSW
1	1	W. MAGEE, VIC
1		R. MADDERN, NSW
1		J. MACKIE, VIC
1		A. MACARTNEY, VIC
1		E. LOWE, STH AUST
1		L. LINTER, NSW
1		W. LEO, QLD
1		K. LAKE, NSW
1	1	R. KYLE, NSW
1		R. KELSO, NSW
1		J. B. KELLY, VIC
1		T. HONEYSETT, TAS
1		G. GROSS, STH AUST
1		J. GRENAH, TAS
1		K. GRANT, NSW
1		S. GORE, STH AUST
1		J. FOSTER, NSW
1		H. EVERNDEN, NSW
1		I. EVANS, STH AUST
1	2	W. EDWARDS, NSW
1		JACKIE DRINKWATER, NSW (Aberdare)
1		H. DENHAM, STH AUST
1		J. CUTHERBERT, NSW
1		J. CUMBERFORD, QLD
1		A. CREIGHTON, NSW
1		G. CHIAPPIN, STH AUST
1		J. CAMERON, STH AUST
1		J. CALDERWOOD, VIC
1		D. BURTON, QLD
1		R. BURNS, NSW
1		S. BURNS, NSW
1		L. BURNETT, NSW.
1	1	M. de BRUYCKERE, VIC
1		W. BROWN, NSW
1		L. BROWN, NSW
1	1	G. BROWN, QLD
1		G. BRISTOWE, VIC
1	1	J. BRATTEN, QLD
1		D. BONE, NSW
1		A. BEATTIE, STH AUST
1	1	J. G. BARR, VIC
1	1	V. BARNETT, NSW
1		W. BARBER, STH AUST
1		J. BAMBERO, VIC
1		R. AUSTEN, NSW
1		R. ATKINSON, NSW
1		E. ATKINSON, NSW

He's done it all

No-one in Australia can match the extraordinary soccer career of Les Scheinflug. In his later years he should grow a long, grey beard, hold court and mutter profound advice to young men, as befits a wise old sage. He could do it now, but he looks too young.

Scheinflug was the first Australian captain after Federation, our first World Cup captain and he played for the Socceroos pre-Federation as well.

He was captain of Prague for seven years, he played 20 games for NSW and he was the player-coach who brought Marconi into the NSW First Division.

He coached the NSW State team for five years and he has also coached Western Suburbs, Sydney Croatia, Canterbury, Safeway United (Wollongong), Brisbane Lions and Adelaide City. He was appointed boss of Marconi for the 1979 Philips League season.

He was assistant coach of the Socceroos who went to West Germany for the 1974 World Cup finals and he was in charge of the Australian XI that played against Wisla Crakow in Sydney in February, 1979.

Born in Yugoslavia but brought up in West Germany, Scheinflug joined Sydney club Prague in 1957 at the age of 18 and stayed there for 12 years, until becoming player-coach of Marconi. His illustrious team mates at Prague included: Ron Lord, Karl Jaros, Leo Baumgartner, Peter Jaksa, Peter Hmcir, Roy Blitz, Walter Tamandl, Herbert Ninaus, Andy Sagi, Eric Schwartz, Geoff Sleight, David Zeman, Fred Falzon and even Brian Green, who played two games with Prague in 1964 and returned from England in 1975 to become Australia's coach for a short time.

Scheinflug played his first game for Australia against Scottish club Hearts of Midlothian in 1959. Then came Australia's suspension from FIFA but in 1963 he was back as captain of the Socceroos for two games against Everton of England.

The match programme spoke of Scheinflug thus: "Australia's young captain Les Scheinflug is a wise choice for this position because he has an infectious enthusiasm for soccer which can lift a whole team. He is also one of the youngest men ever to lead an Australian team....Scheinflug is a strong footballer who drives himself through a game until he is empty of energy. He is unusally versatile and has appeared as a winger and inside forward and even a full back for his club Prague but left half is the position which he prefers....He has been the driving force behind much of Prague's success in recent seasons because of the tremendous amount of work he does in the middle of the field."

The following year, 1965, Scheinflug captained Australia against Chelsea and NSW against Moscow Torpedo before leading the Socceroos to slaughter in their two World Cup matches against North Korea in Phnom Phen. In the first of the two games he scored from a penalty – it was the Socceroos' first World Cup goal.

Scheinflug was recalled to the national team for games against the touring Japanese side in 1968 because John Watkiss was unavailable. He played in the 2-2 draw in Sydney and scored one of the goals in the 3-1 victory in Melbourne. That was his last game in the green and gold.

Les Scheinflug

17-0: blackest day for Roos

June 30, 1951, is the date of Australian soccer's greatest disgrace. It was on that day that the touring England team beat the Socceroos 17-0 — a record score in international soccer.

Among earlier results England had thrashed Tasmania 17-0 and won 6-1 and 13-1 against Australian Elevens in Melbourne and Adelaide respectively. However, the first full Test between the two countries, had resulted in a relatively narrow 4-1 victory to England, so none of the 14,146 people at the Sydney Cricket Ground was prepared for the ruthless slaughter they witnessed in the second Test.

Jack Sewell of Sheffield Wednesday, who was to finish the tour with 35 goals, scored six in England's 17-0 victory. Ike Clarke of Portsmouth notched four, Jim Hagan (Sheffield United) and Frank Broome (Notts County) got three each and Gordon Hurst (Charlton Athletic) had to make do with only one.

The other members of the touring party were:

Full backs: H. Bamford (Bristol Rovers), J. McCue (Stoke City), F. Lock (Charlton).

Goalkeepers: E. Burgin (Sheffield Utd), S. Bartram (Charlton).

Half backs: D. Parker (West Ham), R. Flewin (Portsmouth, capt), S. Owen (Luton), J. Shaw (Sheffield Utd), L. Kieran (Tranmere Rovers).

Forwards: H. Webster (Bolton), W. Smith (Birmingham), R. Langton (Bolton).

The tourists played the enormous total of 20 games in a gruelling 10-week tour that took its toll in injuries. They won all 20 games, but manager David Wiseman said even before the tour ended: "I will recommend to the Football Association that the itinerary for any future tour be reduced considerably."

The goalscorers for England, which was watched by a total of 190,020 spectators during the tour, were: Sewell 35, Hagan 28, Clarke 23, Broome 16, Smith 13, Hurst 12, Langton 12, Webster 9, Bamford 3, Owen 2, Parker 2, Shaw, Kieran.

Before the 17-0 rout, the previous biggest defeat by an Australian Test team had been 8-2, to the touring English professionals in the second Test at Maitland in 1925. The previous highest scores on record in international games had been England's 13-0 against Ireland in 1882 and England's 12-0 against Germany in 1901.

Reasons given by players and officials of both sides for the record-breaking victory at the Sydney Cricket Ground were:

- England had developed brilliant combination during the 12 matches since the start of the tour;
- The England players had a lot of experience playing on muddy surfaces like the one at the SCG;
- The muddy conditions robbed Australia of its only weapon — speed;
- The Australian team lacked cohesion because it had not even had a training run before the game.

One player said: "It is only making us look foolish to pit us against the cohesive English professionals without giving us time to prepare. It is bad for Australian soccer and the rest of the tour."

English co-manager Wiseman said: "Our lads really gave a brilliant showing today. They worked up a combination in the early 12 matches and now would beat any team England could put on the field."

Former international "Tugger" Bryant, analysing the match in the "Sydney Morning Herald" wrote: "Australia could not handle the mud whereas England revelled in it and ran rings around the Australians. It became almost farcical. Our players spent more time on their backs in the mud than on their feet. One spectator commented: 'The only time they were on their feet was when the band played 'God Save The Queen'.

"At no time did the home team show cohesive football. None of the defenders properly marked his opponent. Goalkeeper Norm Conquest faced a hopeless task, with the Englishmen walking through our defence to deliver a barrage of shots. Australian centre half Tom Jack was the only player in defence who showed any Test form. Inside right Eric Hulme was outstanding in attack but had little support. England's forward line — Broome, Hagan, Clarke, Sewell and Hurst — had a field day and scored as they liked. England's defence was sound but rearely needed."

The Australian team that faced the English on that black day was:

N. Conquest (NSW), R. Parkes (NSW), C. Drummond (NSW), R. Lawrie (Qld), T. Jack (Vic), J. Duff (NSW), E. Kemp (NSW), E. Hulme (NSW), R. Date (NSW), M. Wild (Qld), R. MacKenzie (Vic).

Officials said the team could not be chosen until the Wednesday before the game because reports on various players were awaited until then. For that reason, and also because some interstate players could not take time off from work, the team could not be assembled before the match.

It was a ludicrous, amateurish situation, to put it mildly.

Poor Norm Conquest, who had also kept goal in the Australian Eleven's 13-1 defeat in Adelaide, ended the week having conceded 30 goals in two matches.

The Englishmen ran onto the sticky and slippery surface as if it were cement pavement, whereas the Australians plodded and fell as if it were wet cement.

An English player said afterwards: "Australia has relied on its speed to beat our players in previous matches. When that speed is buried in the mud, as it was today, and in Adelaide last Saturday, there is no opposition."

England played grand football for the first 35 minutes during which it scored seven goals. Sewell made it 1-0 in the 4th minute. He, as well as inside left Hagan, figured in all of the first-half goals.

It was Hagan who made it 2-0 in the 13th minute and then Clarke thrilled the crowd by passing Conquest three times in as many minutes. He and Hagan scored again to produce the half-time scorelined of England 7 Australia 0.

Australia's defence was lethargic and apart from inside right Hulme, the forwards presented no danger.

English goalkeeper Sam Bartram was called upon to make his first save in the 16th minute. He had only three other balls to stop before the half ended.

When the teams left the field at half time, the Englishmen's superiority was tatooed on the ground. The Australian territory was a mass of mud, the other half was still fresh and ready to give the tourist a chance to increase their already big margin, which they did. Another seven goals came within 14 minutes. Sewell got three between the 49th and 52nd minutes and another two between the 57th and 59th. With the score at 14-0 the Englishmen virtually rested to allow the opposition to do the running. But the tumbling Australians failed to make any impression on the dour defence and 10 minutes from the end the spectators started to pour out of the ground. Those who stayed saw Broome make two weaving runs for goals, and Hurst net his first to bring up the final result — 17-0.

One of England's 17 goals goes past Australian-goalkeeper Norman Conquest at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Having earlier played in an Australian Eleven's 13-1 loss to England in Adelaide, Conquest ended the week conceding 30 goals.

The English FA tourists who beat Australia 17-0 in 1951, top from left: outside left R. Langton (Blackburn), right back H. Bamford (Bristol Rovers), left back, J. McCue (Stoke), centre half R. Flewin (Portsmouth), outside right F. Broome (Notts County), outside right G. Hurst (Charlton). CENTRE: left back F. Lock (Charlton), inside left W. Smith (Birmingham), centre forward I. Clarke (Portsmouth), centre half S. Owen (Luton), goalkeeper E. Burgin (Sheffield Utd), left half J. Shaw (Sheffield Utd). BOTTOM ROW: goalkeeper S. Bartram (Charlton), inside right J. Sewell (Notts County), left half F. Mitchell (Chelsea) inside left J. Hagan (Sheffield Utd). Inside left H. Webster (Bolton) right half D. Parker (West Ham).

Hulme, a surprise selection, was the only Australian to impress. Reg Date, the feared Australian goal machine, did little kicking during play and saw the ball mostly in the 17 kick-offs.

Not surprisingly, selectors omitted six members of the losing team from the squad to meet England in the third Test in Brisbane the following Saturday.

Those by-passed were Conquest, Parkes, Jack, Kemp, Date and MacKenzie. The 14-man squad was

Goalkeepers: R. Lord (NSW), W. Mitchell (Qld); full backs: K. O'Neill, C. Drummond (NSW), K. Newlands (Qld); half-backs: R. Lawrie (Qld), R. Bignall, E. Duff (NSW); forwards: J. Hodge, E. Hulme, G. Nunn, J. McMahon, (NSW), M. Wild (Qld), H. Robertson.

This time the players were to be assembled in Brisbane a full two days (!) before the match to "develop combination".

The team for the third Test was selected after England had beaten Queensland 7-1 at the Brisbane Cricket Ground, with goals by Sewell (2), Webster (2), Langton, Smith and Brophy (own goal) and a solitary reply from B. Bruce of the home team.

The test side was: Lord, O'Neill, Drummond, Lawrie (capt), Bignall, Duff, Hodge, Hulme, Nunn, McMahon, Robertson.

Having revelled in the mud of Sydney, the Englishmen this time mastered the granite-hard surface in Brisbane to win 4-1 in front of a crowd of 23,216. They displayed their best form of the tour in the first 15 minutes when they scored three goals but then they were content to go on the defensive. Manager Wiseman said his players had not wanted to take risks on the hard ground because they had to be fit when they returned home to their clubs.

Clarke got two goals in the first four minutes and Hagan and Langton added the others. Harry Robertson scored for Australia in the 29th minute. Australia's best were O'Neill, Drummond, Lawrie and Hulme.

For the fourth Test in Sydney, the selectors replaced Hodge with K. Lake of West Wallsend and Nunn with the great Frank Parsons. This time, the team had all of three days to train together before the match.

After the test in Brisbane, English officials were aked by Australian Soccer Football Association officials to explain statements attributed to David Wiseman, criticising Australian soccer administration. The statements had appeared in the London newspaper, the "Daily Express". Wiseman was quoted as accusing the Australians of "niggardly economy, adopting a bargain-price attitude and treating the players like a fourth-rate side".

Wiseman had said: "At one stage things reached such a pitch that I drafted a letter to FA president Sir Stanley Rous asking that we be recalled. Then we thought it over and decided to carry on for the sake of the many pleasant people we had met out here. Our players have complained that they are drawing 5000 pounds sterling gates and then being asked to accept third-rate meals and living conditions.

"An FA tour is not a moneymaking machine, nor is it a gamble. Yet 'gamble' is the word used to me by ASFA president Mr Storey within the first half hour of our arrival in Australia. I told him the FA would deplore that view of a goodwill visit in Australia's Jubilee year by a team of world famous players.

"I suggest that the Australian officials use some of their profits right away to send a deputation to England to see how the game should be run — we would be happy to help them."

ASFA president Mr S. Storey said in reply that the Association's secretary, Mr Roy Druery, had been with the English team in Melbourne, Hobart, Adelaide and Brisbane and had made sure the tourists were made comfortable.

"The ASFA, at great financial risk, brought the English team to Australia at an estimated cost of 35,000 pounds which will be exceeded by many factors," Mr Storey said. "The full cost will be more than 40,000 pounds and it depends on the remaining gate takings whether there will be any profits, which will go to the development of the game in Australia."

Wiseman then announced that his complaints had concerned accommodation in Melbourne and Hobart only and that arrangements since had been satisfactory.

After having won the fourth Test in Sydney 6-1, the Englishmen had notched a total of 141

Ike Clarke scores for England in the first minute of the tourists' 4-1 victory over Australia in Brisbane in 1951. Among the Australians pictured are goalkeeper Ron Lord, Cec Drummond (No. 3) and Bob Bignall (No.5).

goals to 17 on tour. However, the injury problem was now acute. When Frank Broome had to leave the field with a pulled muscle, the only man available to replace him was 20-year-old Harry Webster who had not fully recovered from a stitched eye that was heavily taped. Bob Langton and Harry Bamford were also injured in the game. Webster, although not fully fit, scored a hat-trick of goals — one of them with his injured head. Clarke, Hurst and Sewell got the others, while Australia's goal came from a penalty converted by Hulme after an illegal tackle by Sid Owen. Australian captain Bob Lawrie thought it had been the Socceroos' best performance so far. Best of the Socceroos were Cec Drummond and Kev O'Neill.

Because of the many injuries, full back Harry Bamford was chosen to play centre forward in the tourists' next match — a 5-2 victory over Granville Districts at Parramatta. Ron Lord and Eric Hulme, who played in this game, thus faced the English three times in five days, as both were in the team for the fifth Test at Newcastle and in the NSW side that was to meet the visitors in Wollongong.

England won the fifth Test 5-0, bringing its goals tally in the Test series to 33. Before the game, the Englishmen protested about the balls that were to be used, complaining that the stitching was not to their liking. Australian manager Bill Orr agreed to use the three balls that the English had brought with them. England's goals in this game came from Clarke (2), Sewell, Smith and Hurst.

The English tour was wrapped up with a 2-0 victory — the narrowest — against NSW in Wollongong on July 22. Bamford and Sewell got the goals.

ENGLAND UNBEATEN IN '25, '37

Well-known players Tom Whittaker and Stan Seymour were in the first English squad to visit Australia. The tour took place in 1925 and the Englishmen were all top professionals. H. Batten completed the tour with 49 goals.

The touring party was:

Goalkeepers: H. Hardy (Stockport), J. E. Davidson (Sheffield Wednesday).

Full backs: C. Poynton (Spurs), T. Whittaker (Arsenal), S. Charlton (Exeter).

Half-backs: C. Spencer (Newcastle), J. Hannah (Norwich), L. Graham (Millwall), W. Caesar (Dulwich Hamlet), J. Hamilton (Crystal Palace).

Forwards: G. Seymour (Newcastle), W. Sage (Spurs), J. Elkes (Spurs), H. Batten (Plymouth), E. Simms (Stockport), C. Hannaford (Clapton Orient), J. Walsh (Liverpool).

Results against Australia: 4-1 v Australian XI in Melbourne, 5-1 v Australia (Test) in Brisbane, 2-1 v Australia (Test) in Sydney, 8-2 v Australia (Test) in Maitland, 5-0 v Australia (Test) in Sydney, 2-0 v Australia (Test) in Melbourne.

The English players who toured in 1937 were all amateurs and this time Australia managed to win the Test series three games to two. Australia won 5-4 in Sydney in front of 37,295 people, and 4-3 in Newcastle, but lost 0-4 in Brisbane.

The touring party was:

Goalkeepers: L. Huddle (The Casuals), A. Woolcock (Cambridge Uni), Full backs: G. Holmes (Ilford), G. Strasser (Corinthians), W. Pickering (Sheffield Wednesday

Half-back: B. Joy (Casuals and Arsenal), J. Lewis (Walthamstow Avenue), T. Leek (Moor Green), J. Sutcliffe (Corinthians). H. Robbins (Dulwich Hamlet), E. Tunnington (The Banks).

Forwards: R. Mathews (Walthamstow Avenue), E. Collins (Walthamstow Avenue), F. Davis (Walthamstow Avenue), L. Thornton (Derbyshire Amateurs), F. Riles (The Casuals), S. Eastham (The Army), W. Parr (Blackpool), L. Finch (Barnet).

Apart from the three-match Test series, the visitors also played against an Australian XI in Melbourne, winning 4-3.

BIRTH OF THE SOCCEROOS

The first Australian national team on record was the one that toured New Zealand in 1922. Of the 14 matches played, the Socceroos won nine, drew one and lost four.

Results: v Wanganui 2-1, v Nelson 8-2, v Wellington 0-3, v Westland 2-1, v South Island 4-1, v Otago 2-1 v NEW ZEALAND (Test) 1-3 at Dunedin, v NEW ZEALAND (Test) 1-1 at Wellington, v Taranaki 6-1 v Auckland 4-1, v South Auckland 2-1, v NEW ZEALAND (Test) 1-3, v Manawatu 5-0.

Fixtures between Australia and New Zealand became regular events after the 1922 tour. The nations met again in 1923, 1933, 1936, 1948, 1954, 1958, 1967, 1972, 1973, 1976 and 1977.

There have been 29 international matches between the two countries. Of these, Australia has won 19, drawn five and lost five, scoring 102 goals to 45. The Socceroos' 10-0 result in Wellington in 1936 still stands as their biggest win yet. Their last loss to New Zealand was 1-2 in Melbourne in 1954.

The Kiwis repaid the Socceroos' 1922 tour by visiting Australia in 1923 for 15 matches, winning six, drawing two and losing seven. Australia was disgraced in the three-match Test series, winning 2-1 in Brisbane but losing 2-3 in Newcastle and 1-4 in Sydney.

In 1933, Australia won another three-match Test 4-2 in Brisbane, 6-4 in Sydney and 4-2 in Sydney.

Three years later, the Socceroos visited the Shaky Isles and this time they were stronger than ever, beating the Kiwis 7-1 in Dunedin, 10-0 in Wellington and 4-1 in Auckland.

If the New Zealanders felt sick about those results, they were just about ready to give up soccer altogether after the Socceroos' 1948 "goodwill" visit. This time, the Australians scored 90 goals to four in winning all 13 games, including a four-match Test series.

Results of those four matches were 6-0 and 4-0 in Wellington, 7-0 in Christchurch and 8-1 in Auckland (whoops — someone let a goal in!).

The Australian squad included all-time greats Joe Marston, Cec Drummond, Angus Drennan, Gordon Nunn and Frank Parsons.

The full squad: Goalkeepers: K. Hough (NSW), A. Gravell (Vic); full backs: A. Drennan (Vic), C. Drummond (NSW, capt), A. Duncan (Qld); half backs: R. Laurie (SA), J. Marston, W. Wilson (NSW), L. Gibb (Qld); forwards: J. Hodge, J. Cunningham, F. Parsons, R. Hughes, A. Johns (NSW), G. Nunn, W. Cansick (Qld).

Goalscorers on tour, with Test match goals in brackets:

26 (12) Parsons; 15 Nunn; 13 (3) Johns; 12 (3) Cunningham; 10 (6) Hughes; 7 Hodge, 2 Marston; 2 (1) Laurie; 1 Wilson.

New Zealand had a measure of revenge in the first Test of its 1954 tour, which it won 2-1 in Melbourne, but it lost the other two Test games 1-4 in Brisbane and 1-4 in Sydney. The Kiwis also played against an Australian XI in Adelaide, drawing 1-1. Of their 11 tour games, they won five, drew three and lost three.

In 1958, it was Australia's turn to tour New Zealand. The Socceroos included star players Joe Marston, Frankie Loughran, Bruce Morrow, Gordon Nunn, Tony Vella, Bob Wemyss and Kev O'Neill but managed only 3-2 and 2-2 against New Zealand. What's more, Auckland beat the Australians 2-1 in the first game of the tour.

Results: v Auckland 1-2, v Wellington 2-2, v Combined NZ XI 8-1, 6-0, 8-0; v South Island 3-0, v Canterbury Province 10-1, v NEW ZEALAND 3-2 in Wellington, v NEW ZEALAND 2-2 in Auckland, v Waikato 5-2.

The touring party was: J. Marston, capt, S. Kitching. B. Morrow, H. Murdock, K. O'Neill (NSW); P. Adair (WA); W. Firkins (Tas); F. Loughran, T. Vella, R. Wemyss (Vic); J. Maher, I. McCabe (SA); G. Nunn, N. Rule, B. Volger (Qld).

CURIOUS CANADIANS

A curious Canadian national team lost a six-match Test series against Australia in 1924. It was part of a 26-match tour by the visitors, who won only 11 of those games.

Australia's results in the Tests were: 3-2 in Brisbane, 0-1 in Sydney, 0-0 Newcastle, 1-4 Adelaide and 1-0 Sydney.

OFF TO THE EAST INDIES

A party of only 16 players undertook an arduous 23-match tour of the Dutch East Indies in 1928.

The players were: Goalkeeper: L. Smith (NSW); full backs: A. Harris (NSW), T. Traynor (Qld, capt), S. Deacon (SA); half backs: C. O'Connor (Vic), F. Coolahan (NSW), A. Marshall (Qld), S. Hinton (SA); forwards: J. Greaves (Vic), A. Cameron (NSW), J. Johnson (Vic), T. Thompson (NSW), H. Coates (NSW), H. Robertson (NSW), L. Cook (NSW), J. Johnstone (Vic).

Australia's tour results: v Macassar 2-1, v HSB 1-3, v Sourabaya 3-1, v Excelsior 4-1, v Simarang 5-3, 3-0, v Chinese XI 6-1, v Bandiong GH 4-3, v UNI 2-0, v Chinese-Malay 2-4, v Singapore 1-0, v Duke of Wellington 2-2, v European XI 6-0, v Bandiong 3-1, v Chiribou 4-0, v Mots Semarang 2-2, v Semarang 4-1, v HSB Sourabaya 0-0, v Excelsior 3-1, v Java XI 1-2, v Sourabaya 5-1, v THOR 3-0, v Macassar 4-0.

Australia's goalscorers: 20 Cameron; 19 Thompson; 8 Deacon, Robertson; 7 Johnson; 5 Coates; 2 Cook; 1 Greaves.

BACK TO INDOCHINA

Many of the opponents of the 1928 East Indies tour were encountered again on Australia's 1931 tour of the Java region.

Australia's squad was: goalkeepers: W. Roach (SA), J. Harper (NSW); full backs: W. Oliver (Qld), C. Weir (Vic), J. Roe (SA); half-backs: C. O'Connor (NSW), R. Telfar (SA), R. Buchanan, J. Martin (Qld), G. Semple F. McIver (Vic); forwards: H. Muir, G. Russell (NSW), R. James, L. Clarke, J. Donaldson (Qld), P. Lewis, J. Johnstone (Vic), G. Hunter (SA).

Results: v Celebes 2-0; v HBS Sourabaya 1-2; v Tiong HWA Sourabaya 4-0; v Singapore US 4-2; v Hercules Batavia 0-3; v Batavia 2-1, 4-0; v Chinese XI (in Batavia) 3-1; v Bandeong 1-3; v Sourabaya 1-1; v Java Chinese 8-1; v THOR Sourabaya 6-2; v Macassar 1-0.

Australia's goalscorers: 7 James, Lewis; 5 Clarke, Russell; 4 Muir; 2 Martin, McIver; 1 Johnstone, Donaldson, Weir, Roe.

BAREFOOT INDIANS

Most of the 18 men in the touring party from India played barefoot on their 16-match tour of 1938.

Australia's results in the Test matches: 5-3 in Sydney, 4-4 Brisbane, 1-4 Newcastle, 5-4 Sydney, 3-1 Melbourne.

The Indians were to prove much stronger opponents in the 1956 Olympic Games (see separate story).

MARATHON PALESTINIANS

Palestine undertook a marathon tour of Australia in 1939. The players travelled by a series of ships for almost two months, spent two months in Australia and took almost two months to return home.

Australia's Test results against Palestine: 7-5 in Sydney, 2-1 (Brisbane), 2-1 (Sydney), 4-1 (Newcastle), 4-4 (Melbourne).

AFRICANS STRIKEBOUND

A shipping strike held up the touring South Africans in 1947, and they had to stay in Australia five week longer than they had planned. To fill in the time, the Springboks played an additional six matches in Australia after their return from the New Zealand leg of their tour.

The South Africans were surprisingly talented players. They won the Test series against Australia and lost only one match on the tour.

Australia's Test results against the visitors: 1-2 in Sydney, 2-4 in Brisbane, 3-3 in Sydney, 5-1 in Newcastle and 1-2 in Sydney. Australian Elevens lost to the South Africans 2-3 in Adelaide, and 4-5 in Melbourne.

Australia fared better on its 1950 tour of South Africa, during which the Test results were 2-3 in Durban, 1-2 in Johannesburg, 2-1 in Port Elizabeth and 2-0 in Capetown. On the same tour, Australia beat Rhodesia 5-0 in Salisbury and 4-1 in Buliwayo.

But any joy caused by the 1950 tour was wiped out when South Africa went on the rampage during its 1955 visit, crushing Australia 3-0 (Brisbane), 2-0 (Melbourne), 8-0 (Adelaide), 6-0 (Sydney), and 4-1 (Newcastle).

LOW RATING FOR CHINA

Four Chinese teams toured Australia pre-Federation, but none of their games against Australia are regarded as full internationals — neither are subsequent encounters in 1975 and 1976.

Australia's results against the Chinese visitors of 1923: 5-1 in Sydney, 4-3 in Newcastle, 5-0 in Brisbane, 1-3 in Sydney, 2-2 in Adelaide. In addition, an Australian XI beat the Chinese in Melbourne.

Results against the 1927 visitors: 6-1 in Sydney, 7-4 in Newcastle, 1-1 in Brisbane. Australian Elevens fielded against the Chinese lost 0-3 in Adelaide and won 6-2 in Melbourne.

The 1941 Chinese tourists were much stronger, scoring 107 goals to 55 in their 19 tour matches.

However, the visitors lost their five-match Test series.

Australia's results were: 4-6 in Melbourne, 4-2 in Sydney, 2-5 in Sydney, 5-2 in Newcastle and 8-4 in Brisbane.

In 1953, a visiting Chinese team lost to Australian Elevens 2-5 and 2-5 in Newcastle.

BOHEMIANS BEATEN

An obscure Bohemia team visited Australia in 1927, losing to Australian Elevens 1-2 in Adelaide and 1-4 in Melbourne. Little else is recorded about the tour.

HAJDUK HERE WITH BEARA

After Hajduk Split's tour of 1949, it was not until 1973 that another Yugoslav team came to Australia. Since then, we have also seen Velez Mostar and Red Star Belgrade.

Hajduk featured the great Vladimir Beara, one of the finest goalkeepers Yugoslavia has produced. Winger Bernard Vukas was another star attraction and other players included Mrcic, Andrijasevic, Matosic, Kokeza and Katnic.

Australia's Test results against Hajduk: 2-3 in Sydney, 0-3 in Melbourne, 2-3 in Sydney and 2-1 in Newcastle. Hajduk also beat Australian Elevens 6-0 in Adelaide and 1-0 in Sydney.

FK AUSTRALIA, FERENCVAROS

The Socceroos had a big year in 1957, when they played against FK Austria, Ferencvaros and Eastern Athletic of Hong Kong.

Two years earlier, the Australians had been given a taste of Austrian soccer magic when Rapid toured with the great Gerhard Hanappi, winning four out of five games against Australia (Australia's only win was 3-2 in the last game in Sydney).

After beating FK Austria 3-2 in their first match in 1957, it seemed Australia had learned something from Rapid's tour.

However, it was only a flash in the pan. Austria had obviously been suffering from travel fatigue in that first match in Wallsend and after getting used to the new climate, the Austrians beat Australia 8-3 and 5-2 in Sydney.

FK Austria featured Leo Baumgartner, Walter Tamandl, Karl Jaros and Andy Sagi whose "defection" to Sydney clubs without proper transfers caused Australia's suspension from FIFA.

Ferencvaros, the famous Hungarian club, beat Australia 6-1 and 9-2 in Sydney near the end of the 1957 tour. It also beat Australian Elevens 3-0 in Adelaide and 3-2 in Hobart.

Australia was lucky to have Eastern Athletic visiting the same year, to boost the home team's sagging morale.

Karl Jaros – toured with FK Austria, then "defected" to Australia.

Walter Tamandl and an Ampol Cup won by Prague. Tamandl is another star who toured with FK Austria in 1957.

The great Stanley Matthews, who visited Australia with Blackpool in 1958.

The men from Hong Kong were not in the same class as the Hungarians or Austrians and so the Socceroos were able to win 4-1 in Sydney and 2-1 in Melbourne and draw 2-2 in Brisbane.

An Australian Eleven fielded against Eastern Athletic drew 2-2 in Hobart.

A number of exhibition matches were played between the touring clubs.

Results were: FK Austria 3 Ferencvaros 2, FK Austria 5, Eastern Athletic 2, Ferencvaros 8, Eastern Athletic 3, Ferencvaros 2, Eastern Athletic 2.

Austria Rapid had also played an exhibition match during its 1955 visit, beating South China 8-4.

STANLEY MATTHEWS, SUPERSTAR

Blackpool's tour of 1958 was a resounding success because of the presence of the great Stanley Matthews, then 43 years old.

Blackpool thrashed Australia 8-2 at the E. S. Marks Field in Sydney, with Matthews scoring one of the goals – his first for six months. He failed to score in Blackpool's 8-0 victory over Victoria but set up three goals for Jim Hagan, who had previously toured Australia with England in 1951.

Matthews was past his prime by the time of Blackpool's visit, but he still showed dazzling footwork. A British parliamentarian of the era summed up Matthews better than anyone else has been able to.

J. P. W. Mallalieu, Socialist M.P., a Rugby Football "Blue" in his time, but later a director of Huddersfield Town, had a vision of the animal world in Matthews, "who would enter the field shoulders bent and head forward, like a porter already feeling the load of baggage he has been sent to carry." In "Sporting Days" (Nicholas Kaye, Ltd 1963), Mallalieu wrote:

"Why does the whole football world and many outside that world look for Matthews whenever he plays?

Former FK Austria star Leo Baumgartner who later played for various Australian clubs and for the Socceroos

"Have you ever watched a lizard suddenly shoot his tongue at an insect? I have watched many times while Matthews has stood motionless with the ball at his feet and facing a barrier of opponents. Then suddenly there has been a stab from Matthews' foot quicker than a lizard's tongue and the ball has shot through some unimagined space between the forest of legs. Have you ever watched a dragon-fly, how it hovers in one spot with its wings vibrating and then apparently, without changing gear, darts away at top speed? Many times I have seen Matthews, the ball as ever at his feet, hemmed in by a watchfull opponent. There has been no room to move so Matthews has hovered, his whole body vibrating, while his opponent watched. Suddenly Matthews has made his dart to the right, and his opponent has darted with him. It is only seconds later that we and his opponent see that Matthews has in fact darted to the left. Have you ever watched a racehorse lope along until at a touch from his jockey he streaks away from the field? Time and again I have seen Matthews loping down the wing, apparently no more conscious of the ball he is dribbling than of the boot he is wearing."

LUCKY SEVEN FOR HEARTS

Seven was indeed a lucky number of Scottish First Division club Hearts of Midlothian, which made its first Australian tour in 1959.

Under manager Tommy Walker, Hearts won all of their 15 matches and notched up scores of 7-1 in three of the Tests against Australia – in Sydney twice and in Brisbane once. Hearts won the other Tests 9-1 in Melbourne and 6-0 in Adelaide.

The Scots also beat Australian Elevens 6-1 in Newcastle and 9-0 in Perth.

• Yugoslavia's goalkeeper Petar Radenkovic leaps high to save during a Soviet attack in the 1956 Olympic final at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. The Soviet Union won 1-0.

Indians take Roo scalps in Olympics

The first major international competition in which the Socceroos competed was the 1956 Olympic Games tournament in Melbourne. They bombed out, just as they were to bomb out in their first World Cup tournament in 1965.

In 1956, as in 1965, inexperience at international level was the reason for Australia's failure.

Reporting on Australia's exit from the 1956 Olympic series, Alex Barr wrote in "The Age": "The original squad was not the best and four weeks of intensive training did nothing to improve the standard. Australian soccer has lost a wonderful chance to gain world prominence and the game has suffered a body blow."

Nevertheless, the 1956 Olympic series is still remembered as the most important soccer event contested by the pre-Federation Socceroos, whose first full internationals were three games against New Zealand in 1922 (1-3 in Dunedin, 1-1 in Wellington and 1-3 in Auckland).

The 1956 experiment was seen as the start of a commitment by Australian soccer to the Olym-

pic Games. However, as a result of the breakaway from the Australian Soccer Association, amateur bodies lost their affiliation with State and Australian Olympic authorities.

It was not until 1975 that the Australian Soccer Federation considered returning to the Olympic movement. State federations began applying to join their State Olympic councils, to comply with the regulation that at least four States must be members of these councils before the ASF is accepted to the Australian Olympic Federation.

Plans were made to play against Papua New Guinea on April 30, 1975, to qualify for a further tournament against North Korea, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and India, which comprised the Asian elimination group at the time.

But problems started to crop up. There was doubt about whether Australia's top players would qualify as amateurs under Olympic rules. When FIFA officials assured the ASF that it could field the senior Socceroos in the Olympics another problem cropped up. Apparently the State federations, especially NSW, were opposed to losing their top players for four weeks in July, 1976, were Australia to qualify for the Olympic Games in Montreal. The States were concerned that the domestic competitions could be disrupted every two years — for Olympics and World Cups alternately. Thus, the 1975 Olympic palns were shelved.

Now Australia is poised to try again. Coach Rudi Gutendorf sees qualification for the Olympics in the Soviet Union as one of the Socceroos' prime tasks. He sees many of the national under 19 players as certainties for the Olympic team.

Will they do better than the Socceroos of 1956? Time will tell.

Australia's first Olympic match was against Japan at Olympic Park on November 27, 1956, before a crowd of only 3,568 at Melbourne's Olympic Park.

Line-ups were:

AUSTRALIA: Lord; Bignall, Pettigrew; Arthur, A. Warren, Sander: Morrow, Loughran, Lennard, McMillan, Smith.

JAPAN: Furukawa; Takabayashi, Hiraki; Omura, Ozawa, Sato; Tokita, Uchino, Yaegashi, Kobayashi, Iwabuchi.

Japan showed more finesse than Australia but the rugged, hard-hitting Socceroo defenders slowed Japan down and prevented it from capitalising on intricate play, especially in front of goal.

Australia scored in the 26th minute when McMillan netted from a penalty awarded against Takabayashi for handling. Australia had had the ball in the net earlier, but referee Lund of New Zealand ruled that two players were offside. At half time Australia was starting to wilt and for a short time it seemed Japan could get on top. But Frankie Loughran, moved from the inside right position to the right wing, netted a second goal to give Australia a 2-0 victory. Only once had Australia's goal seemed in real danger but Ron Lord, always safe, made a daredevil leap to the feet of Yaegashi, swept the ball off his toe and cleared upfield.

Australia's second opponent, before a crowd of 12,000 at Olympic Park on December 1, 1956, was India. There was an argument before the game about whether the Indian team could play barefooted. High ranking officials could not agree whether a rule concerning World Cup soccer affected the Olympic Games. English soccer boss Sir Stanley Rous said: "There is nothing in the rule book that says a player must wear boots. When English sides play teams which normally play without boots, we play them that way." But India agreed to play with boots, on the understanding that if anyone suffered from cramp it would be in order to remove the boots. Never troubled by Australia, the Indians with one exception, continued in full dress for the whole game and won 4-2. Inside right S. Bannersee got cramp in the closing stages and removed his boots but the damage had been done and he had to leave the field shortly afterwards.

Australia's performance was woeful. Wild, indiscriminate kicking — invariably to an opponent — ruined the Socceroos' chances. It had been expected in vain that after seeing ground-level soccer from class teams like Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and the USSR, the Australians would have made some attempt to copy it. India seized control when D'Souza scored the first goal. Although Australia equalised and the interval was reached at 2-2 after two gaols by Newcastle's Bruce Morrow, the end was inevitable. Despite being subjected to heavy tackles, the Indians were yards faster and showed ball control that was completely absent from Australia's play. D'Souza, scorer of India's first goal, finished the match with a hat-trick, the fourth goal coming from Kittu.

Line-ups:

AUSTRALIA: Lord; Bignall, Pettigrew; Arthur, A. Warren, Sander: Loughran, Lennard, Morrow, McMillan, Smith.

INDIA: Thangaras; Azis, Rahaman; Kempial, Salaam, Noor; P. K. Banersee, S. Banersee, D'Souza, Kittu, Kannayan.

India went on to qualify for the play-off for third place but was beaten 3-0 by Bulgaria, while the USSR beat Yugoslavia 1-0 in the final.

On its way to triumph, the USSR beat Bulgaria 2-1 although it was reduced to 10 men for the second half after right back Tichenko received a severe arm injury. In a shock result, the USSR was also held to a scoreless draw by Indonesia but won the replay 2-0.

In a sensational sidelight to the Olympic soccer tournament, police had to break up an impromptu march by 80 British naval ratings at half-time of the game between Great Britain-Ireland and Bulgaria. Acting on the spur of the moment, the sailors had vaulted the fence and marched about 150 yards down the arena in a vain effort to inspire more fight in the outclassed British team. They not only "showed the flag" — three large Union Jacks — but carried noisy ratchet rattles, a calico sign reading "Up the Lions" and an umbrella with black and white stripes — England's colors. The sailors, from the HMS Newcastle, which was in port, marched in orderly fashion for two or three minutes before being escorted from the ground by police. At half time Bulgaria led Britain by three goals to one. Bulgaria was even more dominant in the second half, and surged to an easy 6-1 victory.

Details of finals matches:

OLYMPIC FINAL at Melbourne Cricket Ground, December 8, 1956, crowd 102,000.

SOVIET UNION 1 (Iljin) **YUGOSLAVIA 0** (0-0).

Soviet Union: Yashin; Kouznetsov, Ogognikov; Masljonkin, Bachachkin, Netto; Tatouchine, Issaev, Simonian, Salnivkov, Iljin.

Yugoslavia: Randenkovic; Koscak, Radovic; Santek, Spajic, Krstic; Sekularac, Papec, Antic, Veselinovic, Mujic.

SEMI-FINAL at Melbourne Cricket Ground, December 5, 1956, crowd 42,000:

SOVIET UNION 2 (Slreltsov 2) **BULGARIA 1** (Kolev) after extra time (0-0 full time).

Soviet Union: Yashin; Tichenko, Ogagnikov; Paramonov, Bachachkin, Netto; Tatouchine, Ivanov, Slreltsov, Salnikov, Ryjkine.

Bulgaria: Naydenov; Raharov, Nikolov; Stefanov, Manolov, Kovacer; Stojanov, Mikolov, Panajolov, Kolev, Yanev.

SEMI-FINAL at Melbourne Cricket Ground, December 4, 1956, crowd 25,269:

YUGOSLAVIA 4 (Papec 2, Veselinovic, Liposinovic) **INDIA 1** (D.Souza).

Yugoslavia: Vidinic; Kosiak, Bipgradlic; Santek, Spajic, Krstic; Mujic, Papec, Antic, Veselinovic, Liposinovic.

India: Narayan; Rahaman, Lateef; Kampiah, Salaam, Noor; P. K. Banersee, Nundy, D'Souza, Kittu, Balaran.

PLAY-OFF FOR THIRD PLACE. Melbourne Cricket Ground, December 7, 1956, crowd 25,000.

BULGARIA 3 (Diev 2, Stojanov) **INDIA 0.**

Bulgaria: Yordanov; Rakarov, Kovalcev; Stefanov, Manolov, Stojanov; Slojanov, Milolov, Panajolov, Kolev, Diev.

India: Narayan; Azis, Lateef; Kampish, Noor, Ahmed; Kannayan, D'Souza, Pal, Nundy, Kittu.

Australia outlawed 1960-63

Poaching of overseas players caused Australia's three-year suspension from FIFA in April, 1960.

The suspension followed complaints by overseas clubs including FK Austria and Grazer SK that Australian clubs had used their players without first securing transfer certificates.

FK Austria was asking 8000 pounds for Baumgartner, Jaros, Sagi, Tamandl, Hrncir and Schwartz who were playing with clubs in Sydney. Baumgartner's price alone was quoted at 4500 pounds. Grazer SK put a value of 1545 pounds on Herbert Ninaus and 1030 pounds on his brother Erwin. In dollar terms, the total transfer fees claimed were $92,000.

Other players concerned were Neuhold, Griletz, Fojtlin, Durnberger, Wenzl and Blutsch from Austria and van Heeswijk, van Alphen, van de Gaag, Bosklopper, Bons and Zoeteman from Holland.

Of these, van Alphen, Hrncir, Jaros, H. Ninaus, and Baumgartner went on to represent Australia.

An Australian negotiating team headed by Victoria's Theo Marmaras succeeded in having the fees reduced, and so Australia paid about $37,000 in transfer fees to be granted re-afilliation with FIFA in July, 1963.

During the period of suspension, Australia was unable to play against overseas terms.

It was also during this period that the Australian Soccer Federation was formed, in 1961.

Theo Marmaras

Crushed by Koreans in first World Cup

For its World Cup debut in 1965, Australia had to play only two qualifying games, a sharp contrast to the qualifying marathons that were to follow in 1969, 1973 and 1977.

FIFA drew up six African groups and one Asia-Oceania group for the 1965 series that was to produce the 16th. qualifier for the finals in England.

However, 15 African federations, as well as South Korea, withdrew their applications.

South Africa, which was drawn in the same group as Australia, North Korea and South Korea, was suspended by FIFA over its racist policies, meaning that Australia and North Korea were the only two nations left.

But Australia did not prepare properly and was overwhelmed 6-1 and 3-1 by the fast, skilful and battle-hardened North Koreans who had played 35 internationals in their three years together.

The two matches between Australia and North Korea were played at the State Olympique at Phnom-Penh in neutral Cambodia on November 21 and November 24, 1965.

Australia's squad — which went on to play in other Asian countries after the World Cup games — numbered 20 players. Coach was Tiko Jelisvacic, co-managers were Jim Bayutti and Ian Brusasco, masseur Lou Lazzari and the doctor, Gaston Bauer.

The first match was played in 28 deg. heat and high humidity in front of a crowd of 60,000 — the largest crowd the Australians had encountered. The Socceroos were nervous from the kick-off. The faster and superior Koreans had Australia pinned in defence for most of the first half and it was only sheer guts that enabled the Socceroos to restrict Korea to one goal before half time. John Watkiss should have equalised in the 42nd minute when he faced an open goal, but he missed narrowly. It didn't really matter though, as the Koreans cut loose after half time and stormed to a 4-0 lead by the 65th minute. Wingers Han Bong Jin and Kim Seung Il and centre forward Pak Seung Jin wrecked the Australian defence and, to make things worse, Socceroos goalkeeper John Roberts lost his nerve and conceded three goals from long-range shots. Australia's only goal came from a penalty awarded in the 70th. minute by Malaysian referee Patrick Nice. Skipper Les Scheinflug, hampered by an injury, scored from the spot.

Coach Jelisavcic made five changes for the return game, dropping John Roberts, Stan Ackerley, Geoff Sleight, Archie Blue and Dave Todd to make room for Bill Rorke, Roy Blitz, Steve Herczeg, Billy Cook and Jim Pearson. He told his team to forget the 4-2-4 system, to mark opponents individually and to attack as much as pos-

● Australian captain Pat Hughes (right) and Cambodia's Yang Tramom exchange pennants before their match at Phnom-Penh in 1965

The Australian Soccer Federation paid out $115,309.46 to national squad members in the financial year 1974-75.

Most of it was appearance fees and bonuses for the 1974 World Cup finals and it came from Australia's share of World Cup profits ($252,000). The $5000 or so that each player received did not include earlier bonuses the Socceroos earned for winning their World Cup elimination series.

In short, it was quite a profitable year for the Socceroos — a far cry from the days they were expected to play for virtually nothing.

Pat Hughes was the first player to rebel over the financial conditions offered to members of the national squad.

The Socceroos were offered a paltry $60 a week for their Asian tour of 1967. Hughes, who had been national captain for two years before the tour, demanded that the Federation pay more. He said he would not play for the pittance offered.

Hughes was never again picked for Australia. He still believes that the Federation "banned" him, but is pleased that his protest led eventually to a better financial deal for the players. His strong stand prompted others to seek higher wages. The demands became stronger when the squad returned from the 1967 tour and the players were united in protest by the time of the 1969 World Cup games, with the result that the Federation agreed to pay them a lot more.

Pat Hughes did not retire from soccer until 1972, so his international career should have been much longer than it was. Born in Scotland, he joined Morton there as a 16-year-old and then had a few seasons with Junior League club Duntocher Hibs before coming to Sydney as a 19-year-old.

He had 12 years with APIA-Leichhardt. In 1970 he tore a cruciate ligament, an injury from which he never fully recovered although he gave it everything he had during a hopeful season with Granville.

After hanging up his boots, Hughes coached Sutherland Shire for a few years. He was vice-captain to Les Scheinflug for Australia's 1965 World Cup games, and took over as captain for the rest of the tour when Scheinflug was injured.

A shot of the scoreboard and the 55,000 crowd at North Korea's 3-1 victory over Australia in their 1965 World Cup game at State Olympique, Phnom-Penh.

sible. The Socceroos started well and even scored the first goal of the game in the 15th. minute. Blitz sent a cross into the penalty area, Pearson controlled it and passed unselfishly to Scheinflug who neatly planted the ball in the net. Pak Seung Jin equalised only four minutes later with a 20-metre shot that caught Rorke by surprise, but Australia still had a fighting chance at half time. The tight marking by Australia's defenders had been worrying the Koreans, who did not look the same confident team that beat Australia so convincingly in the first game. But all that changed after half time. Suddenly the Koreans found their rhythm again and in the 53rd minute Kim Seung Il gave his team a 2-1 lead with another long shot. The goal spurred Korea on to greater things and Rorke had to make a series of acrobatic saves before Kim Seung Il scored his second goal in the 75th minute to make the final score 3-1.

Details:
NORTH KOREA 6 (Pak Seung Jin 54th. & 80th. min., Han Bong Jin 65th. & 88th., Pak Do Ok 15th., In Seung Hwi 58th) **AUSTRALIA 1** (Scheinflug penalty 70th) at Stade Olympique, Phnom-Penh, November 21, 1965, crowd 60,000.
North Korea: Li Chan Myung; Pak Li Sub, Shin Yung Kyoo; Kang Bong Chil, Lim Zoong Sun, In Seung Hwi; Han Bong Jin, Pak Do Ok, Pak Seung Jin, Kang Ryong Woon, Kim Seung Il.
Australia: Roberts; Shepherd, Ackerley; Hughes, Rice, Scheinflug; Sleight, Anderson, Blue, Watkiss, Todd.
Referee: Patrick Nice (Malaysia)

NORTH KOREA 3 (Kim Seung Il 53rd & 75th mins., Pak Seung Jin 19th) **AUSTRALIA 1** (Scheinflug 15th) at Stade Olympique, Phnom-Penh, November 24, 1965, crowd 55,000.
NORTH Korea: Li Chan Myung; Pak Li Sub, Shin Yung Kyoo; Kang Bong Chil, Lim Zoong Sun, In Seung Hwi; Han Bong Jin, Kim Yung Kil, Pak Seung Jin, Kang Ryong, Woon, Kin Seung Il.
Australia: Rorke; Shepherd, Cook; Hughes, Rice, Watkiss; Blitz, Anderson, Herczeg, Scheinflug, Pearson.
Referee: A.G. de Silva (Singapore)

Australia's squad was: John Roberts, Billy Rorke, Nigel Shepherd, Stan Ackerley, Billy Cook, Billy Rice, Pat Hughes, Les Scheinflug, John Watkiss, Johnny Warren, Hammy McMeechan, Roy Blitz, Archie Blue, Johnny Anderson, Steve Herczeg, Jim Pearson, Ron Giles. Ian Johnston, Dave Todd, Geoff Sleight.

North Korea's results in the 1966 World Cup finals in England (Group Four):
USSR 3 (Banishevski, Malofejev 2) **NORTH KOREA 0**
USSR: Kavasashvili, Ponomarjev, Shesternjev, Kurzilava, Ostrovski, Sabo, Sitshinava, Chislenko, Banishevski, Malofejev, Chusainov.
North Korea: Li Chan Myung, Pak Li Sub, Shin Yung Kyoo, Kang Bong Chil, Lim Zoong Sun, In Seung Hwi. Pak Seung Jin, Han Bong Jin, Pak Do Ok, Kang Ryong Woon, Kim Seung Il.

NORTH KOREA 1 (Pak Seung Jin) **CHILE 1** (Marcos)
North Korea: Li Chan Myung, Pak Li Sub, Shin Yung Kyoo, Lim Zoong Sun, Oh Yoon Kyung, Pak Seung Jin, In Seung Hwi, Han Bong Jin, Pak Do Ok, Li Dong Woon, Kim Seung Il.
Chile: Olivares, Valentini, Cruz, Figueroa, Villanueva, Prieto, Marcos, Araya, Landa, Fouilloux, Sanchez.

NORTH KOREA 1 (Pak Do Ok) **ITALY 0**
North Korea: Li Chan Myung, Lim Zoong Sun, Shin Yung Kyoo, Ha Jung Won, Oh Yoon Kyung, In Seung Hwi, Han Bong Jin, Pak Do Ok, Pak Seung Jin, Kim Bong Hwan, Yang Sung Kook.
Italy: Albertosi, Landini, Guarneri, Janich, Facchetti, Bulgarelli, Fogli, Perani, Rivera, Mazzola, Barison.

Group Four standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
USSR	3	0	0	6	1	6
Nth Korea	1	1	1	2	4	3
Italy	1	0	2	2	2	2
Chile	0	1	2	2	5	1

Quarter-finals:
PORTUGAL 5 (Eusebio 4, Augusto) **NORTH KOREA 3** (Pak Seung Jin, Li Dong Woon, Yang Sung Kook)
Portugal: Pereira, Morais, Baptista, Vicente, Hilario, Graca, Coluna, Augusto, Eusebio, Torres, Simoes.
North Korea: Li Chan Myung, Lim Zoong Sun, Shin Yung Kyoo, Ha Jung Won, Oh Yoon Kyung, Pak Seung Jin, In Seung Hwi, Han Bong Jin, Pak Do Ok, Li Dong Woon, Yang Sung Kook.

Strong man Billy Rice

Billy Rice was one of the few Australians whose reputation withstood the 6-1 and 3-1 batterings by North Korea in the 1965 World Cup qualifying series.

Rice collapsed in the dressing room with stomach pains at half time of the 3-1 game but because substitutes were not allowed then, he staggered back onto the field and played the second half in a daze.

Yet he and Slavia's Nigel Shepherd emerged as Australia's best players over the two-match series.

Rice played only one more match on the tour, against Hong Kong, before being forced onto the bench by a leg injury. He played his last international match against Scotland at Olympic Park on June 4, 1967.

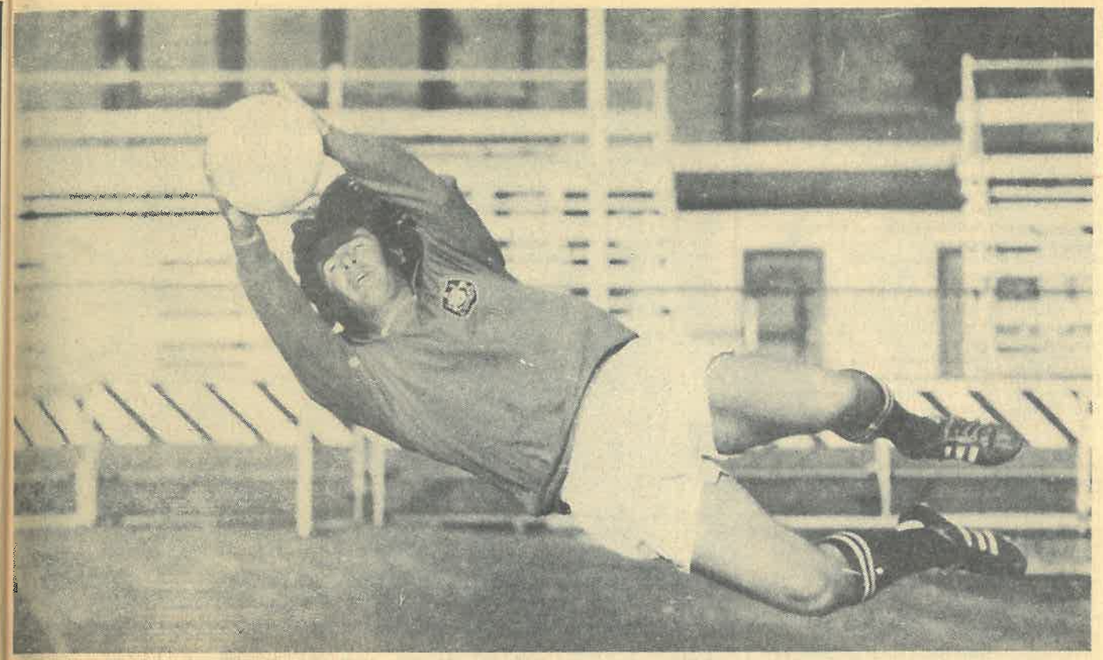
Born on September 12, 1938, in Belfast, Northern Ireland, Rice came to Australia as a 17-year-old with his parents in 1955 after playing as a junior with Distillery in Belfast.

He signed with Footscray Capri and stayed on after Capri amalgamated with J.U.S.T. three years later. He thus had a total of 14 years with the "one" club.

During this time he played about 500 club games and represented Victoria 24 times.

A deeply religious person, Rice opposed Sunday soccer as he considered Sunday the traditional day of rest. He retired from soccer in 1972.

Billy Rice



Goalkeeper Ron Corry – star of Australia's 1969 World Cup qualifying series.

Corry saves two penalties but it's Israel by a goal

Had Australia reached the 1970 World Cup finals in Mexico, it would have been due largely to the extraordinary form of goalkeeper Ron Corry.

Corry, then 28, was brilliant in Australia's marathon 1969 qualifying campaign.

As team-mate Billy Vojtek said at the time: "All the others had at least one mediocre performance but Corry starred in every game and saved two penalties – one against South Korea and one against Israel."

Corry, small for a goalkeeper but incredibly acrobatic, was with South Sydney Croatia at the time. Australian-born, he had started his senior career with Canterbury-Marrickville and moved to Croatia via Pan Hellenic (now Sydney Olympic).

He was on Australia's triumphant 1967 Asian tour and played against Japan in 1968 and against Greece in 1969 before the World Cup games.

Corry played a total of 33 games for Australia, including 27 full internationals from 1967 until his last appearance in the green and gold in the 3-3 World Cup draw with New Zealand in Sydney in 1973.

The Socceroos' 0-1 loss to Israel in Tel Aviv, through an own goal by David Zeman, was the result that was to deny Australia a place in the 1970 finals in Mexico. Corry saved a penalty by Israeli star Giora Spiegel in a valiant attempt to avoid that defeat, but the injury-stricken and travel-weary Australians could not muster the same valour in attack. They had flown to Tel Aviv from Laurenco Marques in Mozambique, where they had played three qualifying games against Rhodesia. In the last of those games, centre back Alan Marnoch and midfielder Danny Walsh had been injured so badly that they were unable to play against Israel. Ray Baartz was not as effective as usual because he was carrying a leg injury. Tommy McColl, injured in the first of the three matches against Rhodesia, returned for the Israel game but was still not fully fit and had to be substituted by Billy Vojtek.

The weakened Socceroos battled valiantly but could not retrieve the own goal forced on Zeman by Spiegel. Considering their handicaps, the Socceroos had achieved quite a respectable result. Their opponents were, after all, an outstanding team. The nucleus of that team was the "Golden Trio" – Giora Spiegel, Mordechai Spiegler and David Primo. "Prima Primo" was a common salute when Primo appeared in games at home. Spiegel was named after Giora, a Jewish hero who fought in the battle of Masada in the first century. Spiegel had become a Jewish hero in his own right. Mordechai Spiegler, captain of Israel, made a name for himself as a First Division player in France. He still ranks as Israel's all-time great. Others in the imposing Israeli squad included the youngest, Meier Barad, 19, who had been withdrawn from a tank unit on the Suez Canal through personal intervention by General Moshe Dayan, so he could represent his country. There was also Zvi Rozen, the toughest defender, a tank driver in the Sinai campaign; Rahamin Talbi, a parachutist and war hero; Yeshayahu Feigenbaum, known as Shaya, who shared with Spiegler the honor of being top scorer in the Israeli league, and of course Isaac Visoker, still considered the greatest goalkeeper Israel has produced.

And so, after having lost to Israel 0-1 in front of 48,000 people in Tel Aviv, Australia had to win the return game in Sydney to force a play-off in neutral New Zealand or Hong Kong. Israel needed only to draw to advance to the finals in Mexico.

To get this far, Australia had won a tournament against Japan and South Korea in Seoul and had cleared the formidable Rhodesia hurdle in Mozambique.

Japan had drawn a three-match series with Australia in 1968, but in the opening match of the World Cup tournament, Australia won convincingly, 3-1, Tommy McColl scored in the 5th minute, Watanabe equalised in the 11th but an own goal by Ogi put Australia back into the lead in the 61st. Ray Baartz rounded off the scoring eight minutes later.

In the second game, Australia met host nation South Korea, still our strongest opponent this side of the Middle East. After having won 2-1, the Socceroos were pelted with bottles, cans and seat cushions from the 20,000 crowd, in a disgraceful exhibition of bad sportsmanship. A squad of nearly 20 police rushed onto the field

to escort the Australians to their dressing room and gesticulated toward the crowd and blew whistles loudly in an effort to halt the demonstration. Amid the ugly reaction, the Australians' jubilant coach, Joe Vlasits, looked proudly at his battered team and said: "This could have been the greatest victory in Australian soccer history. If we get to Mexico I think this will be the victory that will be most responsible for our success." In a rugged, often spiteful match, the Australians took the lead in the 37th minute through John Watkiss. Throughout the game, the crowd roared encouragement for the home team and greeted the two Australian goals — the second by McColl eight minutes from the end — with a stony silence that made defender Alan Marnoch remark wryly: "Each time we scored I thought we were in a public library." One of Australia's best players was skipper Johnny Warren who gave an inspired midfield display although he was dazed from a fierce clash of heads with Korean centre forward Kim Ki Bok, who was carried off on a stretcher with a head injury. Other good players in this memorable victory were Corry, Stan Ackerley, Marnoch and Watkiss.

Australia then drew 1-1 with Japan, coming back with a 39th minute goal by McColl after Miyamoto had given Japan the lead after only four minutes. Coming into the last game the return against Korea, Australia held a two-point lead on the ladder. Korea's only chance of overtaking Australia was to win by at least two goals. A one-goal victory would have resulted in another match to separate the teams.

The 25,000 spectators were ecstatic when Park Soo Il put their team ahead in the 29th minute. Then Korea was awarded a penalty from which it could have established the two-goal lead it required. However, Ron Corry stopped the penalty kick with an acrobatic save and, after Ray Baartz had equalised, Corry the hero, was chaired off the field by his jubilant team mates. Australia had won the tournament.

Rhodesia, was to have competed in that tournament but the South Korean government, supporting United Nations sanctions against Rhodesia, prohibited the team from entering the country. FIFA then decided to allow Rhodesia to meet the tournament winner. Thailand was named as the tentative venue but the government of that country promptly announced that it too would bar the Rhodesian team. Eventually Mozambique agreed to stage the Australia v Rhodesia tie. Had Rhodesia qualified for the World Cup finals, FIFA would have faced another embarrassing problem, for according to the Mexican Consulate in Sydney, there was no way that the Mexican Government would have issued visas to the Rhodesians for the final tournament.

Australia went into the first game well and truly behind the eight ball. Less than an hour before the match, captain Johnny Warren was forced to withdraw due to stomach trouble and Victorian forward Billy Vojtek was replaced for disciplinary reasons. Vojtek was removed from the team after failing to return to his hotel by the required time the previous night. He did, however, come on as a late substitute for Willie Rutherford. Warren's position at centre forward was taken by Adrian Alston and left back Stan Ackerley became acting captain. Playing much of the game in heavy rain, the Australians had good scoring chances but were foiled by the brilliant goalkeeping of Rhodesia's Robin Jordan. Rhodesia was content to crowd the goal and scramble the ball away. To add brawn to his forward line, Australia's coach Joe Vlasists replaced Alston with John Watkiss before half time. However, it was Rhodesia that scored first, through centre forward Bobby Chalmers in the 63rd minute. Once again, Australia's all-important goal came from Tommy McColl who replied five minutes later after playing a one-two with Rutherford. However, McColl came away from that match with an injury which prevented him from playing in the return. Vojtek returned to replace him. Johnny Warren also returned.

Rhodesia again used defensive tactics to frustrate the Socceroos, resulting in a scoreless draw. Both Stan Ackerley and John Watkiss were injured in that match and neither of them was able to play in the tie-breaking third game. John Perin came in at left back for Ackerley and Rutherford returned for Watkiss. Rutherford was Australia's hero. He put Australia ahead in the 12th minute and 10 minutes later he forced Rhodesia's Phillimon Tigere to concede an own goal. Bobby Chalmers reduced the arrears for Rhodesia before Warren scored in the 59th minute to give Australia a 3-1 victory and passage into the next round against Israel.

So it was on to Tel Aviv, where the Socceroos suffered that one-goal defeat, and then home again to await the return clash in Sydney.

By this time, many of the Socceroos were complaining that their soccer activities were costing them money. Some had been off work for up to two months due to the long World Cup campaign. Now there was talk that each player had been promised about $1000 if they qualified for the World Cup finals. But it was not to be!

A crowd of about 30,000 turned up at the Sydney Sports Ground, hoping that the Socceroos would at least force a play-off. But without Tommy McColl, who was still injured, Australia did not have the necessary attacking power to wear down the Israelis. Israel's coach Emmanuel Schaeffer, had his team playing defensively to preserve the lead it had gained in Tel Aviv. Shmuel Rosenthal beat Ray Baartz and David Primo had the better of John Watkiss. The only Australian forward who was a clear winner was Atti Abonyi who played a dazzling lead-up game which unfortunately broke down when it reached the Israeli last line. Man of the match was Australian centre back Manfred Schaefer. He not only eclipsed his opponent, Mordechai Spiegler, but was also the Socceroos' motor. He had his foot in everything. When time was running out in the second half, Schaefer went right up into attack with full backs George Keith and Stan Ackerley in a desperate attempt to get that vital goal.

It was during this period that Israel's defence and counter-attack strategy paid off. After the Australians had moved upfield, Giora Spiegel latched onto the ball in midfield with only George Keith and Alan Marnoch left in defence. Keith failed to stop Spiegel's pass and the unguarded Spiegler slammed home Israel's goal in the 78th minute. Watkiss made the final score a 1-1 draw when he drove the ball low through a pack of players 10 minutes later.

Israel had come needing only a draw and had tailored its tactics accordingly. It was a triumph for Emmanuel Schaeffer the tactician. Australia was left dreaming of what might have been without injuries to Marnoch and Walsh in Tel Aviv and McColl in Sydney.

The long qualifying series resulted in a loss of about $18,500 to the Australian Soccer Federation.

The players in the 1969 World Cup squad were: Ron Corry, Jim Fraser, Frank Cush, Gary Manuel, Joe Alagic, Ray Lloyd, Don Sandell, George Keith, Stan Ackerley, Manfred Schaefer, John Watkiss, Alan Marnoch, David Zeman, Johnny Warren, Danny Walsh, Attila Abonyi, Ray Baartz, Willie Rutherford, Adrian Alston (all NSW); Lou Kastner, Billy Vojtek, Tommy McColl (Vic) and John Perin (SA).

Details:

Group 15 qualifying games (sub group 15.1): Japan 1 Australia 3, South Korea 2 Japan 2, Australia 2 South Korea 1, Australia 1 Japan 1, Japan 0 South Korea 2, South Korea 1 Australia 1.

Final standings:

	W	D	L	F	Pts.
Australia	2	2	0	7	4 6
Sth Korea	1	2	1	6	5 4
Japan	0	2	2	4	8 2

Second phase: Australia 1 Rhodesia 1, Rhodesia 0 Australia 0, Australia 3 Rhodesia 1.

Final phase: Israel 1 Australia 0, Australia 1 Israel 1.

Australian players' appearances during the 1969 World Cup qualifying series:

9. Corry, Keith, Schaefer, Abonyi, Baartz, Vojetk; 8. Marnoch, Ackerley, Warren; 7. Watkiss; 6. McColl, Rutherford; 4. Walsh; 3. Perin, Zeman; 2. Alston; 1. Manuel.

Goals: 4. McColl; 2. Baartz, Watkiss; 1. Rutherford, Warren; own goals: Ogi (Jap). Tigere (Rhod.)

Israel's results in the World Cup finals in Mexico in 1970 (Group Two):

URUGUAY 2 (Mujica, Maneiro) **ISRAEL 0.**

Uruguay: Mazurkiewicz, Ubinas, Ancheta, Matosas, Mujica, Montero Castillo, Rocha (Cortez 12th), Maneiro, Cubilla, Esparrago, Losada.

Israel: Vissoker, Schwager, Rozen, Rosenthal, Primo, Spiegel, Schum, Rom (Vollach 57th), Spiegler, Talbi (Bar 46th), Feigenbaum.

SWEDEN 1 (Turesson) **ISRAEL 1** (Spiegler)

Sweden: S. G. Larsson, Selander, Axelsson, Olsson, Grip, B. Larsson, Nordahl, Svensson, Turesson, Kindvall, Persson (Palsson 75th).

Israel: Vissoker, Schwager, Rozen, Vollach (Shuruk 48th), Primo, Rosenthal, Spiegel, Spiegler, Schum, Feigenbaum, Bar.

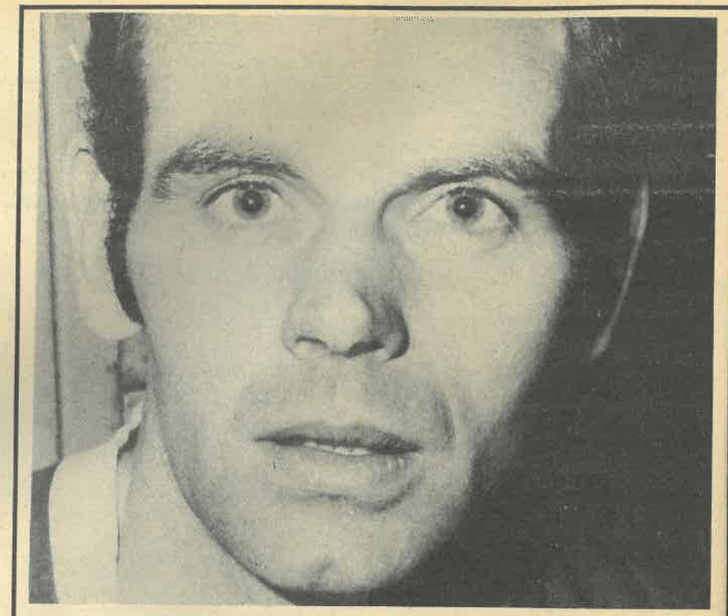
ITALY 0, ISRAEL 0.

Italy: Albertosi, Burgnich, Cera, Rosato, Facchetti, DeSisti, Domenghini (Rivera 46th), Mazzola, Bertini, Boninsegna, Riva.

Israel: Vissoker, Schwager, Rozen, Rosenthal, Primo, Bello, Spiegel, Spiegler, Schum, Feigenbaum (Rom 46th), Bar.

Group Two standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Italy	1	2	0	1	0	4
Uruguay	1	1	1	2	1	3
Sweden	1	1	1	2	2	3
Israel	0	2	1	1	3	2



George Keith — from Arsenal apprentice to Socceroo.

He marked Bobby Charlton

George Keith still likes to tell the story of how he marked Bobby Charlton in a game against England.

He had just been signed as an apprentice with Arsenal. It was his first day with the great London club and while he was wondering whether he'd be washing boots or perhaps cleaning out the dressing room, he was told to get his gear on.

The England team was expected at Highbury for one of its occasional practice matches there.

It was Arsenal's custom to try out some of its promising youngsters in such training sessions, and so George Keith found himself playing full back against Charlton.

"Luckily for me he was just out for a stroll," Keith recalls, "but I grasped the opportunity to show that I could make a good fist of full back play."

Keith had been signed by Arsenal after impressing scouts while playing at centre half for Scotland against England in an international schoolboy match at Wembley. He was 16 years old.

During his two-year apprenticeship at Arsenal, he was given a lot of encouragement by Tommy Docherty, who was still a top player there at the time. "I used to spend Christmas with his family and often acted as baby-sitter for the children," he recalls.

Homesickness caused Keith to return to Scotland after the two years and just before he left, Docherty handed him a blue Scotland shirt with No. 6 on the back, saying: "I'm sorry to see you go, George, but I hope it won't be long before you have one of these of your own."

Keith signed a contract with Morton in Scotland and in 1964 he transferred to Third Lanark where, in the course of his attacking play from full back, he scored seven goals. However, Third Lanark was relegated to Second Division and this prompted his decision to go and try his luck in Australia.

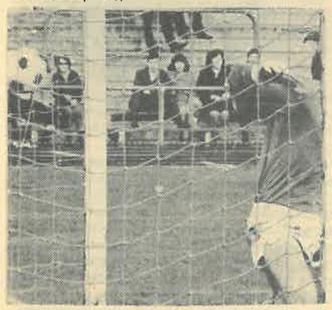
He arrived in Melbourne in July, 1965, to join Hakoah—St Kilda.

It wasn't long before he was hailed as the finest full back in the country, so national coach Joe Vlasits included him in the squad for the 1967 Asian tour. He stayed on for the 1969 World Cup games and played his last international series against the touring English FA squad in 1971.

Like Dave Harding's penalty miss against Iran in 1977, a mistake by George Keith in 1969 will always be a talking point when the Socceroos' fortunes are discussed. In the crucial World Cup match against Israel in Sydney, Keith misjudged a bouncing ball, allowing Mordechai Spiegler to dart through and score Israel's goal. The 1-1 draw eliminated Australia and put Israel into the 1970 World Cup finals in Mexico. But Keith had played brilliantly in earlier matches against South Korea, Japan and Rhodesia and it was a tribute to his determination that he fought his way back into the national team in 1971 after a two-year absence.

George Keith moved to Sydney after the 1967 Asian tour, to join APIA where he became club secretary for a period after hanging up his boots.

The triumphant Socceroos in Rhodesia, from left: David Zeman, Jim Fraser (obscured), John Watkiss, Ron Corry, Ray Baartz, a Rhodesian player, George Keith, Bill Vojtek, Attila Abonyi, Danny Walsh, Dr. Brian Corrigan (rear), Alan Marnoch, Willie Rutherford (back turned) and Lou Lazzari (masseur).



Tommy McColl heads a goal in a club match, for Juventus (Vic.) in 1970.

Australia's full squad before the 1969 World Cup battles, from left, top row: Les Bordacs (manager), Alan Marnoch, John Watkiss, Stan Ackerley, George Keith, Tom Patrick (official) Joe Vlasits (coach). Middle row: Dr. Brian Corrigan (team physician), Ron Corry, Gary Manuel, David Zeman, Don Sandell, Ray Baartz, Jim Fraser, Brian le Fevre (ASF secretary). Front: John Perin, Billy Vojtek, Attila Abonyi, Johnny Warren, Willie Rutherford, Danny Walsh, Joe Alagic, Tommy McColl.

Warren, MBE

Johnny Warren's last international match was against West Germany in the 1974 World Cup finals and his last kick in competitive soccer was the one that scored the winning goal for St. George in the 1974 NSW grand final.

Canberra City, the club he later managed, tried often to persuade him to play again, but he resisted steadfastly. He had gone out on a high note, as a winner. There was no way he was going to spoil it.

Not for Warren the slow, sad decline of the one-time champion. He had a reputation to protect — probably the biggest reputation in Australian soccer.

Born in the Sydney suburb of Randwick, Warren became the first Australian-born captain of the national team after Federation. He served in that capacity for four years, until a serious knee injury interrupted his career, and he was rewarded with an MBE in 1973.

He has often been quoted as saying "Soccer is my life" — a cliche in sport, but a profound statement of fact in Warren's case. His contribution to soccer was never confined only to playing. Building the image of the game and encouraging young talent have always been among his major concerns. During his long career with St. George he often took part in coaching clinics for district youngsters.

To equip him for his new career of coaching, Warren took an exacting and arduous FIFA coaching course under Dettmar Cramer, then FIFA's only full-time developmental coach.

In 1977, in his capacity of A.C.T. Director of Coaching, Warren conducted countless clinics and coaching courses. He is also in great demand in Fiji, where he has run many courses, and in country areas like Alice Springs, Orange and Darwin. His contribution to soccer has been continuous since

he was promoted to the Canterbury senior team under coach Joe Vlasits at the age of only 16. He has of course, reaped returns from that involvement, and he is the first to express gratitude.

Warren believes, perhaps predicatably, that the future of soccer in Australia depends upon developing local young players. In this regard he is similar to Joe Vlasits, the coach he admires so much. "Vlasits had the biggest influence on me. He gave me a chance when I was young and he stood by me until I made the grade," Warren said. It was his faith in John Watkiss, Ron Corry, Alan Westwater and me and the chance he gave us as young players to develop, which influences me in perservering with young players now."

The young players who have come under Warren's wing include Mark Jankovics, Neville Morgan Brendan Grossa, John O'Shea (St. George) and Mike Milovanovic, Danny Moulis, Steve Hogg and David Lindenmayer (Canberra).

Warren played in championship teams for Canterbury until he transferred to St. George at the age of 19. He stayed with the Saints until the end of his playing career, and then he took over as the club's manager. His biggest disappointment was being fired by St. George. He remains bitter over that dismissal.

When a group of enthusiastic soccer people in Canberra decided to start a new club for the Philips League in late 1976, they persuaded Warren to become manager-coach. Canberra City's limited financial resources prevented the club from achieving success on the field, but promotion off the field was first-class. With Warren working hard to build the club's image on radio and television and in the Press (he is a columnist with "Soccer Action", the "Canberra Times" and the "Sunday Telegraph"), and with Canberra clinching the use of the magnificent Bruce Stadium, the club grew into one of the most well-supported in the league.

Johnny Warren started his international career as a member of Australia's 1965 World Cup squad. He missed out on playing against North Korea in the two qualifying games, but made his debut in the 0-0 draw with Cambodia a few days later. His remaining matches on that tour were against Hong Kong (0-1), Nationalist China (3-1) and Malaysia (3-0).

He replaced Pat Hughes as national team captain for the 1967 tour of Asia and held that post through the 1969 World Cup qualifying games and the 1970 world tour, until injury interrupted his career for 15 months, Peter Wilson then took over as captain but the players voted for Warren as vice-captain when he returned.

Warren is now public relations consultant with Sydney City (Hakoah).

Sabah Hattem
Irak

Salah Ubid
Irak

Douglas Aziz
Irak

Abid Kadum
Irak

Riad Nuri
Irak

Ali Kadum
Irak

Ronny Pasla
Indonesia

Pattinasarany
Indonesia

Iswadi
Indonesia

Waskito
Indonesia

Widodo
Indonesia

Abdul Kadir
Indonesia

Panggabean
Indonesia

John Staines
New Zealand

Tom Randles
New Zealand

Kevin Curtin
New Zealand

Brian Armstrong
New Zealand

Dennis Tindall
New Zealand

Success after crises in Sydney, Seoul, Auckland, Teheran

Four times during the 1973 World Cup elimination series, Australia stood at the brink of disaster. Each time there seemed little hope of reaching the finals.

It was a measure of the grit and maturity of the '73 Socceroos that they overcame each of the crises — one of them against New Zealand, one against Iran and two against South Korea.

The first of them took the form of a goal scored by New Zealand's Brian Turner in the 57th minute of Australia's first qualifying match in Auckland on March 4.

Alan Marley who was later to play for Brisbane City, had been pushed to the ground by an Australian and the free kick had been quickly relayed to Turner who drove it hard and low into the net.

Australian coach Rale Rasic replaced Max Tolson with Ernie Campbell in the 67th minute and Johnny Warren with Attila Abonyi in the 77th minute.

The appearance of Campbell was what saved Australia from defeat. Five minutes from the end, in a goalmouth scramble, Campbell was on hand to score the equaliser.

Australian right back Doug Utjesenovic had been the star of the match with his penetrating overlapping runs and crosses, but even the Socceroos' team manager, John Barclay, conceded afterwards that New Zealand had been the better team.

Australia and New Zealand were now joined by Irak and Indonesia for the remainder of the qualifying tournament in Sydney and Melbourne.

A brilliant performance by midfielder Ray Richards — who was to win the award for the best player of the tournament — steered Australia to a magnificent 3-1 victory over Irak in front of 28,514 people at the Sydney Sports Ground on March 11, while New Zealand managed only a 1-1 draw with Indonesia.

The Socceroos had never played better.

Of Ray Richards' display coach Rale Rasic said: "He was sensational. He absolutely inspired the other players and lifted the team to a height Australian fans have not seen before".

Iraki defender Abid Kadum played most of the game with his head heavily bandaged after a clash of heads with Branko Buljevic who walked around in a daze for some time until being replaced by Ernie Campbell in the 23rd minute.

Although Richards, Jimmy Mackay and Jimmy Rooney gained control early in midfield, the match remained even until half time, with centre backs Peter Wilson and Manfred Schaefer, who was playing with an injured foot, being relied upon to clear some dangerous Iraki attacks.

For the opening goal, in the 49th minute, Richards pirouetted on a free kick from left back Bobby Hogg and drove the ball low past goalkeeper Abdul Rahman with his left foot.

Adrian Alston scored the other two — the first by heading a cross from Rooney high into the net, and the second by coolly picking his spot after a low cross from Doug Utjesenovic.

Australia met Indonesia two days later and although the Socceroos' performance was nowhere near as good as the one against Irak, they won 2-1 to stay on top of the ladder.

However, for most of the game, Indonesian centre back Widodo had the better of the Australian forwards and Manfred Schaefer made a lucky clearance off the goal line from a shot by the tricky Iswadi.

Campbell made the score 1-0 in the 22nd minute after goalkeeper Ronny Pasla had dropped a high cross from Utjesenovic.

But 13 minutes later, Utjesenovic lost the ball to Jacob Sihasale whose cross was delicately back-heeled into the net by Iswadi.

In the 42nd minute Ray Richards was brought down by a tackle, Ray Baartz sent over the free

The man who stayed behind

Australian born Jim Fraser was in the 1969 World Cup squad but it took until early 1973 for him to be given another chance.

The match was against Bulgaria in Melbourne and although he played well enough, he lost his place once again.

Ron Corry played in goal in the first four World Cup matches of 1973 but Fraser was used in the fifth match and this time he played brilliantly to help Australia snatch a scoreless draw with Irak in Melbourne.

He then became the No. 1 choice, playing in the remaining World Cup games against Indonesia (6-0), Iran (3-0 & 0-2) and South Korea (0-0, 2-2 and 1-0).

Fraser was the man who would keep Australia's goal during the World Cup finals in Germany. Nothing was surer. However, Fraser announced not long before the Cup finals that he would not be able to leave his security dog service in Sydney and thus withdrew from the squad.

Jack Reilly was promoted to No. 1 goalkeeper, Jimmy Miliisavljevic moved up to No. 2 and Allan Maher, who had captained the Australian under 23 team on a visit to Indonesia, was brought in as No. 3.

Fraser joined St George from Polonia (NSW) in 1970 but broke his wrist in early 1971. He was loaned to Canterbury while Saints signed first Brian Taylor and then Jack Reilly as replacements. When Reilly returned to Melbourne, Fraser came back to Saints.

His playing days are of course over now. In 1978 he was coaching goalkeepers at Marconi.

Jim Fraser dives to save during Australia's scoreless draw against Irak in the 1973 World Cup qualifying series.

kick and Adrian Alston rammed home the winning goal.

The return game against New Zealand was played in front of 14,071 people at the Sports Ground on March 16, and the Kiwis were difficult opponents once again.

Alan Vest, now coach of Newcastle KB United, shocked Australia in the 10th minute when he chipped the ball over goalkeeper Ron Corry after having outplayed two defenders.

However, Australia responded appropriately when Utjesenovic went on a 40-metre run, played a one-two with Alston and slammed the ball into the net for the equaliser.

Nine minutes later Alston headed a Bobby Hogg free kick back towards advancing Ray Baartz whose goal put Australia into the lead.

Buljevic headed Australia further ahead after one of Richards' incredibly long throw-ins in the 26th minute but then Dennis Tindall, Brian Turner and Tommy Randles took over in midfield and Alan Vest got even better in attack. New Zealand was showing admirable determination despite being two goals down.

Tindall scored just after half time and an own goal by Bobby Hogg made the final score 3-3.

The next match was against Irak in Melbourne on March 18 and Rasic's plan was to concentrate more on not losing than on winning. As a result, the final score was 0-0.

Afterwards, Irak's coach Gyula Telecki complained that the Socceroos' game had been more like rugby than soccer. As he spoke, Irak's doctor was treating four large stop marks on the back of midfield player Riad Nuri.

"We came thousands of miles to play soccer. We do not care if we lose a match but we did not come all this way to lose one of our players", a team official said. However, the rough play was not all one-sided.

Rasic was happy with the draw. "We were the better team right through and Irak did not have a single opportunity to score", he said. The draw left Australia on top of the ladder, three points ahead of Irak which had two games left to play, whereas Australia had only one left — against Indonesia.

Left back Bobby Hogg was the best player against Irak and Attila Abonyi added pep to the attack when he replaced Buljevic at half time.

However, the Australians were quite unimaginative in attack and their best scoring attempts — a header by big Max Tolson and a cracking shot by Alston — were cleared off the goal line by Irak's brilliant right back Mijbil Fartus.

Back in Sydney on March 21, Irak beat Indonesia 3-2, thus moving to within one point of Australia.

Then came the final double-header of the tournament on March 24. In the first match, Irak beat New Zealand 4-0, with a hat-trick by Sabah Hattem.

Irak was now a point clear at the top of the ladder and Australia had to win against Indonesia to regain the lead and win the tournament.

Abonyi's good form against Irak earned him a place in the opening line-up, with Alston moving to centre forward in place of Tolson.

Jimmy Mackay, Abonyi and Utjesenovic were the stars as Australia swept to a thumping 6-0 win, to clinch the series with nine points and a goals tally of 15:6.

Mackay and Abonyi scored two goals each, Abonyi's second coming from a penalty. This gave Australia a 4-0 lead after 54 minutes and Richards and Baartz completed the rout by scoring two more.

The size of the winning margin was due to a significant weakening of the Indonesian team. Star linkman Ronny Pattinasarany, strikers Abdul Kadir and Iswadi and full back Juswardi were all out of the side. In addition, goalkeeper Ronny Pasla and centre back Widodo were injured and replaced during the match.

Total attendance for the tournament, including the game in Auckland, was 81,407. Best players were Richards of Australia, and Widodo of Indonesia. Richards won a $100 prize as Australia's best player, polling 28 votes. Next came Baartz, 22, Mackay and Hogg, 20 each, and Wilson and Schaefer, 18 each.

The tournament's best players, in positions, were: Pasla (Indonesia) — Utjesenovic (Aust) — Widodo (Indon), Wilson (Aust), Hogg (Aust) — Panggabean (Indon), Richards (Aust), Pattinasarany (Indon) — Ahmed (Irak), Hattem (Irak), Kadir (Irak).

Scorers for the series:
6. Hattem (Irak).
3. Alston (Aust).
2. Richards, Mackay, Abonyi, Campbell, Baartz (Aust); Ali Kadum (Irak); Iswadi, Panggabean (Indon); Vest (NZ).
1. Utjesenovic, Buljevic (Aust); Tindall, Turner (NZ); Nuri, Rashid, Aziz, Ubid (Irak); Asmara (Indon).
own goals: Hogg (Aust); Tillotson (NZ).

Final standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Australia	3	3	0	15	6	9
Irak	3	2	1	11	6	8
Indonesia	1	2	3	6	13	4
New Zealand	0	3	3	5	12	3

Results:
New Zealand 1 (Turner) Australia 1 (Campbell).
Indonesia 1 (Panggabean) New Zealand 1 (Vest).
Australia 3 (Alston 2, Richards) Irak 1 (Riad Nuri).
Irak 2 (Rashid, Hattem) New Zealand 0.
Australia 2 (Campbell, Alston) Indonesia 1 (Iswadi).
Irak 1 (Ali Kadum) Indonesia 1 (Iswadi).
Australia 3 (Utjesenoivic, Baartz, Buljevic) New Zealand 3 (Vest, Tindall, Hogg own goal).
Indonesia 1 (Tillotson own goal) New Zealand 0
Australia 0 Irak 0.
Irak 3 (Aziz pen., Ubid, Hattem) Indonesia 2 (Panggabean, Asmara).
Irak 4 (Hattem 3, Ali Kadum) New Zealand 0.
Australia 6 (Mackay 2, Abonyi 2 incl. pen., Richards, Baartz) Indonesia 0.

Having won the tournament against Irak, Indonesia and New Zealand, Australia advanced to a home and away play-off against Iran, winner of Asian Sub Group B2.

Either Australia or Iran would go on to meet South Korea, the winner of Asian Sub-Group A, for the right to represent Asia in the World Cup finals.

Stories about Iran's soccer prowess reached Australia in the weeks leading up to the first-leg match in Sydney.

Manfred Schaefer, the "iron man" defender, was out of the squad after having had an operation, and John Watkiss was being prepared for the stopper's position he had last filled against the English FA in 1971 and against Dundee of Scotland in 1972.

Iran made the mistake of visiting New Zealand on its way to Sydney. It was there, in a 1-1 draw with Canterbury Province in Christchurch that Iran's midfield star Ali Parvin suffered the injury that was to keep him out of the World Cup match.

Parvin limped off the ground with blood streaming from a deep cut that required seven stitches just below the knee. Parvin, who had notched eight goals in the first 12 league games back home, had been one of the heroes of Iran's victories over Syria, North Korea and Kuwait in their qualifying group.

Attila Abonyi storms towards goal against Iran in their World Cup match in Sydney.

A crowd of 30,881 people turned up at the Sydney Sports Ground on August 18 to watch the vital match, refereed by Rudolf Scheurer of Switzerland.

Australia's performance was only mediocre, but it was good enough for a 3-0 victory over Iran which did not live up to its big reputation. Centre back Djafr Kashani, left back Mehdi Lavasahi, midfielder Mehdi Monajati and forward Mohammed Sadeghi all had poor games. Sadeghi came on at half time for Safar Irinpak who had broken his left leg after replacing another casualty, Esmaeil Rahminipour.

Only forward Reza Adelkhani and midfielder Parvis Ghelichkhani showed above average ability. The Australians were faster, stronger and more purposeful but played shoddy soccer after scoring their second goal five seconds after half time.

Their midfield trio of John Warren, Ray Richards and Jim Mackay was disappointing. Richards said afterwards. "It was not one of my best games. I could have done much better". Warren, who had been ill the previous night, was virtually unsighted during the second half and Mackay, the best of the trio, was not as imaginative or as

The Socceroos at lunch in Melbourne during the 1973 World Cup series, from left, Jimmy Rooney, Johnny Warren, Manfred Schaefer, Jimmy Mackay, Jimmy Miliisavljevic, Harry Williams, Bill Vojtek, Col Curran, Ray Richards, Jim Fraser, Ernie Campbell, Doug Utjesenovic.

Ottie Abonyi, sharpshooter

Had it not been for business commitments and injuries, Attila Abonyi would today be Australia's most capped international. However Abonyi does hold the title of top scorer for the Socceroos.

It will take a long time for anyone to snatch that title from him. His total of 36 goals in all games — 25 of them in full internationals — is a long way ahead of the 12 goals scored by John Kosmina, his closest rival from among the current Socceroos.

Abonyi played his first match for Australia in the last of the three-match series against Scotland in 1967, the year his club, Melbourne, won the Australia Cup, beating APIA 4-3.

Abonyi and Billy Vojtek were the two young stars of Victorian soccer at the time and it was fitting that they completed Australia's memorable 1967 Asian tour as the two top scorers. Including hat-tricks against New Zealand (5-3) and Singapore (5-1) Abonyi notched 13 goals on tour, while Vojtek was runner-up with eight.

Injury prevented him from playing in the three-match series against Japan in 1968 but he returned in 1969 to score the penalty goal that gave Australia a 1-0 win over touring Greece in the first of their three-match series.

Strangely, he failed to score in the 1969 World Cup qualifying campaign. After missing the 1970 world tour due to business commitments he did not score again for Australia until 1972 when he slammed the only goal in the 1-0 victory over Wolverhampton Wanderers in Melbourne. Earlier, injuries had prevented him from playing aginst the touring Israel national team.

Abonyi managed only two goals on the 1972 Asian tour where most of the goals came from Branko Buljevic and by the time the 1973 World Cup qualifying series began, Abonyi had been relegated by coach Rale Rasic to the ranks of the reserves. It wasn't until after the qualifying matches against New Zealand (1-1 & 3-3), Irak (3-1) and Indonesia (2-1) that Abonyi returned to the team — as a substitute for Buljevic in the scoreless draw with Irak in Melbourne.

He did well enough when he came on to justify selection for the final match of the tournament, against Indonesia in Sydney. He was determined to re-establish his reputation and became the chief executor of the injury-stricken Indonesia, scoring two goals and setting up others in the Socceroos' 6-0 victory. That display assured him of a place in the remaining World Cup games against Iran (3-0 & 0-2) and South Korea (0-0 2-2 & 1-0).

Yet in the preparation matches before the World Cup finals, Abonyi faced stiff opposition from other forwards in the squad, and was by no means an automatic choice for one of the two strikers' positions. That honor went eventually to Adrian Alston and Branko Buljevic who were the twin strikers in the opening line-ups against East Germany (0-2), West Germany (0-3) and Chile (0-0).

Abonyi's chance to show his wares did not come until the second match, against West Germany in Hamburg. The skilful goalgrabber replaced midfielder Ernie Campbell at half time and almost scored what would have been Australia's only goal in the finals. However, Abonyi had the misfortune of seeing his shot bounce off the post after he had broken away on a pass from Jimmy McKay!

His enterprise earned him a place in the team for the final match against Chile, but he came in as a midfielder rather than a striker.

Typical of the long absences that have characterised his career with the national team, Abonyi wasn't seen again in the green and gold until 1976 when coach Brian Green included him for the 3-0 victory against New Zealand in Melbourne. Abonyi scored in that game and held his place in the squad when Jim Shoulder took over. He scored against Sunderland, Hearts of Midlothian, Bolgna and Hong Kong and was included in the squad for the 1976 world tour.

He started the tour with the satisfaction of scoring the equalising goal in the opening match against Indonesia (1-1) and went on to score against Honk Kong (2-0), twice against a Chinese selection in Peking (5-4) and against Birmingham in England (1-4).

Athla Abonyi (left) does battle with a Korean opponent during their 1973 World Cup match in Sydney (0-0).

After a series against Red Star and another against Israel, Abonyi lined up for his third Wolrd Cup campaign, opening with goals in both games against Taiwan (3-0 and 2-1).

But Shoulder started wondering whether the speed of John Nyskohus was not perhaps preferable to Abonyi's experience and goal sense. As a result, Nyskohus displaced Abonyi for the World Cup game against Hong Kong in Adelaide (3-0).

Abonyi played in only one of the three matches in the "World of Soccer" tournament against Red Star, Arsenal and Celtic and failed to make an appearance in the crucial World Cup game against Iran, which won 1-0 in Melbourne after Dave Harding had missed a penalty for Australia. Ironically, Abonyi had previously been Australia's regular penalty-taker.

Abonyi played in all of the remaining World Cup games against Kuwait, South Korea and Hong Kong, including the games overseas, mostly coming on as a substitute or being substituted.

He was hoping in 1978 to be given one last game for Australia against touring Greece, but it was not to be. He said at the time: "I have played 11 years for the national team and although time has caught up with me, I did not want to be dumped like so many other players who have represented their country. A little recognition is all that I had hoped for. It would have been great to go out knowing that I played my last international for Australia at home. Even if they had let me play for only 15 minutes, I would have been one hell of a delighted man."

But Abonyi found consolation in being player-coach of Sydney Croatia that year, in being top scorer of Croatia's North American tour and in seeing Croatia win the NSW State League championship.

Abonyi, who came to Melbourne from Hungary at the age of 10, started his soccer career with the under 13 and under 14 teams of St Kilda.

He made his senior debut with Melbourne-Hungaria at the age of 15 and stayed with the club until he joined St George at the start of the1969 season. It was with the Saints that Abonyi rounded off his reputation as one of Australia's all-time soccer greats and so it came as a shock that Abonyi transferred to Croatia at the start of 1977 after Saints had failed to meet his financial requests.

Abonyi's representative career started when, as a boy, he played for the Victorian under 14, under 16 and under 18 teams. Among his team mates in the State under 14 side were Mike Mandalis who became a star with South Melbourne Hellas and later player-coach of Hakoah-St Kilda; Dino De Marchi who became the all-time top scorer of Juventus and Mike Olinowski, who went on to star with Polonia and Ardeer.

• From previous page

mobile as usual. Coach Rasic, who had pinned his hopes on a winning midfield, said "If you can win 3-0 with players below form you must be doing fairly well."

Luckily the full backs, Doug Utjesenovic and Col Curran, made up for the midfield weaknesses with their brilliant overlapping play. It was two perfectly placed free kicks by Utjesenovic that presented Adrian Alston and Peter Wilson with the opportunities to score Australia's first two goals.

But it was Attila Abonyi who electrified the large crowd. He didn't get enough of the ball after the interval but in the first half he was the outstanding player of the match. In one of his finest periods of international football, Abonyi celebrated his 27th birthday by tying the Iranian defence in knots and shooting at every opportunity. His efforts were rewarded with a goal five seconds after half time.

The return match, in Teheran, was played six days later, on August 24. Iran made four changes, Australia started with the same team that had played in Sydney.

Iran had 80,000 partisan fans at the Aryamehr Stadium, cheering on their home team. It was hot - very hot. "I could hardly breathe", Col Curran commented afterwards.

Iran went into the lead with a penalty in the 15th minute. Ray Richards and Ghelichkhani jumped for a high ball and Russian referee Pavel Rasakov pointed to the spot. He had apparently seen Richards handle the ball. "The penalty was diabolical", Richards said afterwardsn but that didn't alter the fact that Ghelichkhani scored and that the goal gave Iran the inspiration to play some brilliant soccer. "It was touch and go in that first half. They were coming at us in waves", said John Watkiss.

"We played badly", said Attila Abonyi. "Ghelichkhani was magnificent in midfield, and the rest of the Iran team followed his example."

Ghelichkhani scored the second goal after 25 minutes with a fierce 30-metre drive that left goalkeeper Jim Fraser helpless. Now Iran needed one more goal to force Australia into a third, tie-breaking match, or two goals to win outright. Australia had managed only one real shot at goal in the first half and the Iranians were far superior. However, coach Rale Rasic made two shrewd substitutions that saved the Socceroos. First big Max Tolson came on at half time for Adrian Alston who had rarely seen the ball in attack. Tolson played very deep and used all his strength and aggression to knock the stuffing out of the Iranians.

Rasic made the second change in the 71st minute, bringing on Jimmy Rooney for John Warren. Rooney, fresh and fit, was constantly on the ball, and he used his ability to hang onto it and thus deny Iran possession. Australia thus prevented Iran from scoring any further goals and won the home and away tie 3-2 on aggregate.

It was the second time the Socceroos had survived on the brink of annihilation. This time Tolson deserved most of the praise, as did Rasic for perceiving the contribution Tolson could make.

"Despite being two goals down, the Australian players pulled themselves off the floor, regained composure and ended the game on top of Iran. This is the sign that a team has reached maturity", Rasic said. "The team has been under tremendous pressure in Teheran, with constant niggling incidents reminding them the stakes were high.

"The 80,000 crowd cheered encouragement to Iran and showed outward hatred for Australia. This, along with the altitude problem, the furnace-like heat and the fine performance of the Iran team, makes the win in the series incredible".

Details of Asian Sub-Group B2 played in Teheran:

The Australian team that beat Iran in Sydney in 1973, standing from left: Ray Baartz, Ray Richards, John Watkiss, Peter Wilson, Adrian Alston, Doug Utjesenovic, Johnny Warren. Front: Jimmy Mackay, Col Curran, Rale Rasic (coach), Jim Fraser, Attila Abonyi.

Iran v North Korea 0-0, 2-1; Syria v Kuwait 2-1, 2-0; Iran v Kuwait 2-1, 2-0. North Korea v Syria 1-1, 3-0; Iran v Syria 1-0, 0-1; Kuwait v North Korea 0-0, 2-0.

Final standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Iran	4	1	1	7	3	9
Syria	3	1	2	6	6	7
North Korea	1	3	2	5	5	5
Kuwait	1	1	4	4	8	3

Details of Group B final:

AUSTRALIA 3 (Alston 43rd, Abonyi 46th, Wilson 85th) IRAN 0 at Sydney Sports Ground, August 18, 1973, crowd 30,881.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Watkiss, Curran; Warren, Richards, Mackay; Abonyi, Baartz, Alston (Vojtek 76th min).

Iran: Hejazi; Ashtiani, Kashani, Kargajam, Lavasahi; Monajati, Ghorab, Ghelichkhani; Rahminipour (inj., sub. Irimpak 14th, inj. sub. Sadeghi half time) Mazloumi, Adelkhani.

Referee: Rudolf Scheurer (Switzerland). IRAN 2 (Ghelichkhani 14th min. pen. & 31st) AUSTRALIA 0 at Aryamehr Stadium, Teheran, August 24, 1973, crowd 80,000.

Iran: Rashidi; Ashtiani, Kashani, Kargajam; Ghelichkhani, Parvin, Haghverdian (Ghorab 76th); Mazloumi, Sadeghi, Adelkhani (Sharafi 65th).

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Watkiss, Curran; Richards, Warren (Rooney 71st), Mackay; Abonyi, Baartz, Alston (Tolson half time).

Referee: Pavel Kasakov (USSR).

Now the stage was set for the Asia/Oceania qualifying final between Australia and South Korea.

When Korea knocked out Israel in the final of Sub-Group A, it had appeared that little was left to prevent Australia from getting to West Germany.

Israel, after all, had loomed from the start as the biggest threat to the Socceroos. South Korea, on the other hand, had failed to beat Australia in the five matches between the two countries since 1967.

But, as it turned out, South Korea constituted a formidable hurdle to the Socceroos. In the first two games, Australia was perilously close to defeat but survived somehow to win the tie-breaker 1-0 in neutral Hong Kong.

Goalkeeper Jim Fraser recovered from a back injury to play in the first match in Sydney on October 28. Wearing a wide bandage around his torso, he saved certain goals by Cha Bum Keun and Park Ee Chun in the 37th and 43rd minutes to enable Australia to escape with a lucky scoreless draw.

South Korea also missed two open goals. It was a measure of the Koreans' ruthlessness that Park Ee Chun, one of the culprits, was replaced after his miss in the 59th minute.

This match was at the wrong time of year for Australia. The Koreans were faster and fitter, apart from also being younger and more skilful.

Korea came hoping for a draw, putting the ball into the court of the Australian forwards, all of whom were utter failures. Rasic said after the game: "Korea was much, much better than I'd expected. The players were cool and constructive and their defence was excellent. Our team was shocking. Everything went wrong. The defence and midfield never supported each other. In fact, I'd say we created the Koreans' chances. We didn't play well, that's all". However, Rasic remained optimistic. "Korea played safe soccer. We will play safe soccer in Seoul, and it will be the Koreans who will be under pressure", he said.

The Koreans' dominance was best illustrated by sweeper Yoo Kee Heung, his centre-back partner Kang Kee Wook and deep-lying winger Chung Kyu Poong who was dazzling.

For the return match in Seoul in front of 27,000 people on November 11, Rasic brought back

Schaefer in place of Watkiss and used Rooney and Buljevic in place of Warren and Alston.

South Korea, as had been expected, threw everything at Australia in the first few minutes and went into the lead deservedly after 15 minutes when Utjesenovic's back-pass bounced off goalkeeper Fraser to the waiting feet of big Kim Jae Han, who drove the ball into the net.

The Korean barrage continued and a goal had to come.

In the 28th minute Park Byoung Chul sent over a menacing cross which Utjesenovic only partly cleared. Ko Jae Wook picked up the loose ball and his thundering shot from 15 metres was deflected into the net off a defender.

But only seconds later Cul Curran sent the ball into the middle where Buljevic nodded it past goalkeeper Byon Ho Yung. Had the Footscray-J.U.S.T. star not scored at such a vital stage, Korea would almost certainly have settled down, organised itself and played defensively to hold onto its lead.

With Rooney working his heart out in midfield, Australia continued to attack, searching for the equaliser. It came only three minutes after half time when a long throw-in by Richards found Ray Baartz who hammered home from 12 metres.

"We missed four chances after squaring the scores", Rasic said. "If we could only have gone ahead 3-2, i reckon we would have won by three goals".

Ray Baartz said: "The Koreans were finished in the second half." He predicted an easy win to Australia in the tie-breaker in Hong Kong three days later, on November 13.

The Australian team remained unchanged, but Korean coach Min Byoung Dae replaced three of his men, including goalkeeper Byun Ho Yung who had played in the first two matches. But the changes didn't prevent Australia from winning 1-0 with that now legendary goal by Jimmy Mackay in the 70th minute.

Coach Min said: "Australia was the stronger side. Our team missed its chance in Sydney and Seoul. The Australians were much better equipped to stand up to three hard Cup games in a little over two weeks and that's really the whole story.

There were emotional scenes as Rasic dashed onto the field to congratulate his players who hugged each other in jubilation and then carried the coach off on their shoulders.

Buljevic had come close to scoring three times in the first 20 minutes and Baartz had caused the Korean defence a lot of trouble.

In defence, captain Peter Wilson stood like a colossus, clearing every ball that came his way and eclipsing completely his opponent Kim Jae Han.

"I feel as though I'm walking on a cloud. I keep pinching myself to make sure the whole thing is real," Wilson said after Australia had qualified for the World Cup finals for the first time.

Vice-captain Ray Baartz said: "We just kept battling our way through match after match hoping the gods would be kind to us. Thank heavens they were."

One man who wasn't impressed was Dutch referee Arie van Gemert who refereed the games in Seoul and Hong Kong. "Australia is at least four classes lower than the weakest first division team in Europe but Australia will play in the World Cup finals in Munich next year and England will not," van Gemert said. "I told the Australians after the matches that they would not win a game in Munich." His prediction was to come true, but opposing coaches and the German public were to express a much higher opinion of the Socceroos.

Details of Asia Sub-Group A played in Seoul:

GROUP A: Japan 4 South Vietnam 0, Japan 0 Hong Kong 1, Hong Kong 1 South Vietnam 0. Hong Kong and Japan qualified for the semi-finals.

Branko Buljevic (right) heads home to put Australia back into the game as South Korea led 2-0 in Seoul.

The ball is in the net from a shot by Ray Baartz (no. 9) to give Australia a 2-2 draw with Korea. Australia won the tie-breaker 1-0.

GROUP B: South Korea 4 Thailand 0, Israel 3 Malaysia 0, Thailand 0 Israel 6, South Korea 0 Malaysia 0, South Korea 0 Israel 0, Thailand 0 Malaysia 2. Israel and South Korea qualified for semi-finals.

Group A standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Hong Kong	2	0	0	2	0	4
Japan	1	0	1	4	1	2
Sth Vietnam	0	0	2	0	5	0

Group B standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Israel	2	1	0	9	0	5
Sth Korea	1	2	0	4	0	4
Malaysia	1	1	1	2	3	3
Thailand	0	0	3	0	12	0

Semi-finals of Sub-Group A, played in Seoul: Hong Kong 1 South Korea 3, Israel 1, Japan 0 after extra time.

Final of Sub-Group A played in Seoul: South Korea 1 (Kim Jae Han) Israel 0 after extra time.

Final of Asia/Oceania:

AUSTRALIA 0 SOUTH KOREA 0 at Sydney Sports Ground, October 28, 1973, crowd 32,005.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Watkiss, Curran; Richards, Mackay, Warren (Campbell 75th) Baartz; Abonyi, Alston (Tolson 60th)

South Korea: Byun Ho Yung; Kim Ho Kon, Yoo Kee Heung, Kang Kee Wook, Park Yung Tae, Cha Bum Keun, Ko Jae Wook, Park Byung Chul; Park Ee Chun (Kang Tae Hyun 65th), Kim Jae Han, Chung Kyu Poong.

Referee: Vital Loraux (Belgium)

SOUTH KOREA 2 (Kim Jae Han 15th., Ko Jae Wook 30th) AUSTRALIA 2 (Buljevic 31st, Baartz 47th) at Municipal Stadium, Soel, November 10, 1973, crowd 32,000

South Korea: Byun Ho Yung; Kim Ho Kon, Yoo Kee Heung, Kang Ke Wook, Park Yung Tae; Cha Bum Keun, Ko Jae Wook, Park Byung Chul; Park Ee Chun, Kim Jae Han, Chung Kyu Poong.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards (Alston 76th) Mackay, Rooney; Abonyi, Baartz, Buljevic

Referee: Arie van Gemert (Holland)

AUSTRALIA 1 (Mackay 70th) SOUTH KOREA 0 at Hong Kong Stadium, November 13, 1973, crowd 27,-000

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards, Mackay, Rooney; Abonyi (Alston 56th) Baartz, Buljevic.

South Korea: Lee Sae Yun; Kim Ho Kon, Yoo Kee Heung, Kang Kee Wook (Park Ee Chun 80th) Park Yung Tae; Cha Bum Keun, Ko Jae Wook, Park Byung Chul; Kim Jin Kook (Chung Kyu Poong 59th) Kim Jae Han, Kang Tae Hyun.

Referee: Arie van Gemert (Holland)

Germany '74: Dwarf grows ten feet tall

It is rare indeed for Australia to enter an International sports arena as the underdog. When it comes to cricket, swimming, tennis, athletics and even boxing and golf, the inevitable warning is: "Look out, here come the Australians."

Early in June, 1974, when you told a European that the Australians were coming to have a go in soccer's World Cup, the usual reaction was: "Aha, the kangaroos," — and then laughter. The Socceroos, babies in world soccer, had qualified for the first time to join 15 other nations in the World Cup finals, the most spectacular sporting event outside the Olympic Games.

What chance did we have? Sure, we had done well to qualify after a stenuous 11-match elimination program, but now it would be different, now we would face the world's best.

Indeed, we had been drawn in the same group as West Germany, the Cup favorite. Then there was East Germany, probably the fittest team ever, and Chile, possessing those magical ball skills for which South American players are renowned.

Adding to our troubles was the absence of our most capped international and top scorer, **Ray Baarz,** who lay in a Sydney hospital for two weeks, partly paralysed from a vicious karate chop during a warm-up game against Uruguay in Sydney.

There was also a question mark over truck-driver left back **Col Curran,** who had worked so hard to shake off the serious knee injury he suffered in Australia's match against Indonesia on the way to West Germany.

On June 14 — the day of Australia's first World Cup finals match, against East Germany — coach **Rale Rasic** decided Col Curran was fit to play and that former national team captain **Johnny "Skippy" Warren** would be the replacement for Baarz.

Rasic drew up his battle plans. The team would defend en masse and rely on counter-attacks. The most dangerous East Germans — **Streich, Vogel** and **Spaarwasser** — would be closely marked.

Rasic said he had a great deal of respect for the East Germans but added, with a smile: "However, I know more about their team than they know about mine".

Midfield star **Ray Richards,** the cockney with a Zapata moustache and the ability to throw the ball 40 metres, struck an optimistic note, saying: "Why shouldn't we reach the second round? Of course there's a lot of luck involved but in the World Cup anything can happen".

Richards, Rasic and the Socceroos were reported very briefly in the German Press. These kangaroo nohopers would get clobbered anyway.

The meeting with East Germany was at Hamburg's Volksparkstadion. Strangely enough, the 4000-odd fans who had followed the Socceroos to Germany, out-numbered the few fans from nearby East Germany. Only 17,000 spectators came to watch the game. The stadium was more than half empty.

Referee **N'Diaye** of Senegal — who was to be blasted later by Rasic — blew his whistle to start the game and the East Germans attacked at a

MAESTRO MACKAY

"Ray Richards won a free kick, Jim Rooney stuck the ball out to me and I hit it from about 30 yards. It was the best goal of my career. I didn't realise until an hour after the match what had happened. It was a great feeling. Jim and I were sharing rooms and we had a can of Carlton Draught each, sat on our beds, looked up at the ceiling and just thought about it....."

It's Jimmy Mackay talking about the most important goal in Australian soccer history — the one that put Australia into the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany. The goal gave the Socceroos a 1-0 victory over South Korea in their qualifying tie-breaker in neutral Hong Kong in 1973. The previous two games had been drawn, 0-0 in Sydney and 2-2, in Seoul.

When Mackay retired from soccer in April, 1977, "Soccer Action" carried glowing tributes from leading coaches and players throughout Australia. Among them was Rale Rasic who said:

"In the national team, Mackay was the general who directed the pace. He was excellent both in attack and defence.

"He was one of the best, if not the best reader of the game that I have dealt with and he was a giant in big matches.

"I'll never forget Australia's 3-1 win over Greece in Athens in 1970. Not only did Mackay mark Mimis Domazos out of the game, but he also scored our second goal. Against Israel in Tel Aviv on the same tour, he marked Mordechai Spiegler out of the game, yet still managed to be the complete midfield general as well.

"Mackay was certainly one of the most imaginative midfielders ever to have played in Australia and one of the best footballers I've seen here.

"He was a football freak, that's the best way to describe him."

Billy Vojtek, who played alongside Mackay for Croatia (Vic), Australia and Victoria, called him "one of the all-time greats."

Cedo Cirkovic, long-serving coach of Footscray J.U.S.T., said: "He was all class. He was the key man at Croatia and then Hakoah and Hellas. When he played well, his team played well."

Born in Scotland, Mackay represented Edinburgh and District Schools and progressed to junior league soccer with Boonyrig Rose before playing 10 Scottish First Division games with Airdrie in 1964-65.

Feeling unsettled, Mackay came to Melbourne at the age of 21 in 1965. He intended to stay for two years on a working holiday. Instead, he got married and made Australia his permanent home.

Teaming up with Horst Rau in midfield, Duncan McKay in defence, Billy Vojtek and Hammy McMeechan in attack, and various other fine players, Mackay helped Croatia win three Ampol Cups, an Australian Ampol Cup, a State League championship, a top four competition and three Dockerty Cups.

In 1972, Croatia was expelled from the Victorian Soccer Federation due to a crowd disturbance. His next club was Hakoah-Easts in Sydney and it was fitting that this soccer giant should go to arguably the best soccer outfit in the country.

He played midfield for Hakoah in 1973 and 1974 but he and his family were homesick for Melbourne and so they returned in 1975, when Mackay signed for South Melbourne Hellas.

Mackay was never an enthusiastic trainer, and this contributed to his decision to retire just after the inaugural Philips League season kicked off.

He was often called a "player's player." He did so much subtle stuff that was unnoticed by the crowd but that was of enormous benefit to his team mates. Apart from playing 52 games for Australia — 31 of them full internationals — he also represented Victoria more than 25 times.

After a two-year lay-off, Mackay made somewhat of a comeback in 1979, signing for a team in Shepparton, northern Victoria, along with his former South Melbourne team-mate, Jim Armstrong.

Jimmy Mackay, proud son Malcolm and the boot that scored the goal which put Australia into the 1974 World Cup finals.

West German's Ull Hoeness streaks away from stranded Jimmy Mackay. Germany won 3-0.

The confident Socceroos give the victory sign before their game against Chile in West Berlin. From left: Col Curran, Ernie Campbell, Ray Richards, Max Tolson, Gary Manuel, Peter Ollerton, Allan Maher and Peter Wilson.

Reading fan mail in Hamburg, from left: Attila Abonyi, Branko Buljevic, Ray Richards, Doug Utjesenovic, Adrian Alston.

Branko Buljevic heads towards goal, under pressure from Chile's Elias Figueroa, one of the all-time greats of South American soccer.

Goalkeeper Jack Reilly waits anxiously as West Germany's Wolfgang Overath approaches, beating a tackle by Col Curran (left).

furious pace. How many would they score — six, seven, eight? But no, the kangaroos kept bouncing back.

That big, blonde No. 3, Peter Wilson, he's almost unbeatable in defence. And what about that muscleman next to him Manfred Schaefer?

Having withstood the East Germans' early flurry, the Australians start getting cheeky. Twin spearheads **Branko Buljevic** and **Adrian Alston,** playing the best soccer of their lives, create three excellent attacks for the Socceroos but a goal eludes them.

By half time, the Australians have the crowd behind them. The Germans too, support the underdog.

The team is back on the ground and within minutes Curran and Buljevic combine to give Alston a glorious scoring chance but the lanky striker is blocked near goal.

Then — tragedy! East Germany's Spaarwasser breaks through down the right wing but appears to be offside. The Australian defenders are waiting for the referee's whistle but there is none. Goalkeeper, Jack Reilly decides to come out to meet Spaarwasser, who shoots. Panic! Curran, the only defender within miles, storms towards the ball at full speed. He gets to it, kicks, and the ball goes into his own net. Goal for East Germany.

The ball was probably going in anyway, so you can't blame Curran. However, Rasic was justified in criticising the referee for not realising the entire move was off-side.

That goal breaks the Australian team's back. The Socceroos continue fighting like mad but eventually East Germany scores again, this time through **Streich.**

"Dwarf grows 10 feet tall", ... "Unbelievable, the way these Australians fight" . . ."East Germany narrowly avoids disgrace." These were some of the headlines after the match.

Australia had held East Germany to 2-0 and with a little luck could have snatched a draw. Australia was no pushover, and from now on the papers would pay the boys from down under a lot more respect.

The Socceroos were gallant fighters, great sportsmen, friendly, likeable boys, the papers said.

East Germany's coach **Georg Buschner** said: "I was impressed with the Australians. They had excellent organisation in defence, they showed above average flair in midfield and they had occasional attacks which were dangerous. They are very hard, but fair, and they will not 'drown' in the remaining matches".

In their high-security training camp at Ochsenzoll in Hamburg, the Australians, guarded by policemen with machine guns, set about preparing for the most difficult of their three matches. West Germany had not shown even half of what it was capable of in its match against Chile. It was prudent to expect the Germans to be hell bent on goals this time.

Manfred Schaefer was looking forward to his duel with West Germany's goalscoring machine **Gerd Mueller,** leading marksman of the 1970 World Cup finals in Mexico.

Said Schaefer: "I have been preparing for weeks for that 90-minute duel. I will put everything I have into it. Should Mueller remain goalless in the game against us, it will be the greatest achievement of my soccer career."

West Germany's coach **Helmut Schoen** was being cautious. "Australia has a few very outstanding players who can make it hard for any team," said Schoen. "We will take our game against the Australians as seriously as any other."

This time, the stadium is full — about 70,000 people pack the terraces to see their home team, West Germany, score goals. Australia starts hesitantly, nervously. It is, after all, the biggest match of the Socceroos' lives. West Germany is pushing the ball around confidently, skillfully. **Grabowski** on the left wing is posing a serious threat to the Australians and **Overath** in midfiled is dictating the play.

West Germany's first goal is not long in coming. Overath is the man who does the damage, showing the crowd his selection ahead of Netzer was fully justified. The crowd loves his conquest.

Cullman makes it 2-0 and Australia's defence is under a lot of pressure. Goalkeeper **Jack Reilly** has a lot of work to do and Schaefer is not letting Gerd Mueller out of his sight.

When Schaefer is otherwise occupied, skipper **Peter Wilson** takes over the marking of Mueller who is to say later: "Wilson is the roughest man I've played against. He didn't seem to care whether he kicked the ball, a leg or a head".

After half time, the Germans seem to slow down. Suddenly the Australians start looking good. They're still afraid to come forward, in case they leave gaps in defence, but their game is flowing more smoothly now.

Alston gets the ball. With no help in site, he decides to do it on his own. His opponent is West German captain **Franz Beckenbauer,** the greatest centre back in the world. Alston passes him! Then he passes **Georg Schwarzenbeck** and turns to face the goal. Alston shoots, but in vain. Goalkeeper **Sepp Maier** holds the ball.

Gerd Mueller finally eludes Schaefer to backhead the ball into the net for Germany's third goal.

Disaster in Australia's first World Cup finals match. Col Curran, while trying to clear, puts the ball into his own goal. 'Keeper Jack Reilly is stranded way out on the left.

While lying on the ground, Joachim Streich boots home East Germany's second goal. At left is Jergen Pommerenke and at right Australian captain Peter Wilson.

Still the Socceroos refuse to give up Atilla Abonyi, who has replaced Ernie Campbell at half time, hits the post with a great shot after collecting a pass from Jimmy Mackay.

The crowd is now booing the German team and its captain Beckenbauer. Chants of "Austral-lien," "Austral-lien" fill the stadium. The fighting Australians have pleased the German fans much more than even their own home team. It is a fantastic moment for Australian soccer.

The Socceroos are now held in high esteem. Coach Rasic is being hailed for the team's tactical maturity, its guts, its courage. Rasic announces he has had offers from clubs in Austria, Switzerland and France but that he wants to renew his contract with the Australian Soccer Federation provided the price is right and the ASF accepts the program he lays down.

Adrian Alston and **Branko Buljevic** get offers from German national league club Hamburg SV. Eintracht, Frankfurt is also interested, then Hertha BSC pops up. Its bid for Alston is $40,000 signing-on fee, $250 a week and a free flat for two years. Alston says he's interested but wants to go back to Australia first.

The German Press is laying it on thick now. The papers explain the way competitions are conducted in Australia, they praise the Aussies for being such good ambassadors for their country — even to the extent of washing their own dishes at the Ochsenzoll headquarters!

Bernd Cullmann heads home the second of West Germany's three goals against Australia. Watching in despair are Manfred Schaefer (No.4), Doug Utjesenovic and Ernie Campbell.

Socceroo goalkeeper Jack Reilly grasps thin air as Wolfgang Overath's sizzling shot hits the roof of the net for Germany's first goal.

Now the Australians pack their bags and head for West Berlin whose giant 90,000 capacity Olympic stadium is the venue for the next match, against Chile.

Sir Arthur George, president of the Australian Soccer Federation, has an official engagement at the Berlin zoo. He presents the zoo with two souvenir kangaroos and promises to have two live kangaroos sent to the zoo as soon as he gets back to Australia. It's a "bribe", for in return, he wants the Berlin fans to barrack for the Aussies during the big match.

Meanwhile, Chilean officials are offering their players a bribe as well. Beat Australia and your bonus will be raised to $8000, the Chileans kickers are told.

Come the day of the match, and only 16,000 people turn up to lose themselves in the vastness of the huge stadium built by Hitler for the 1936 Olympics and modernised for the two World Cup games in Berlin.

Australia lines up with **Attila Abonyi,** whose second half performance against the West Germans has earned him a place in the team. **Mr Josef Abonyi** from Melbourne is in the crowd to see his son play. The trip from Australia proves to be a worthwhile one for Mr. Abonyi, as Atilla overshadows both Buljevic and Alston as the best Australian forward.

Chile had announced before the match that it would concentrate on attack to score the goals it needs to qualify for the second round. When play begins, the Chileans are doing exactly the opposite. It is the Australians who are attacking and they dominate early play. **Jimmy Mackay** is having a fantastic match in midfield.

Wilson is again imperial in defence and goalkeeper **Reilly** is holding everything that comes his way.

After a scoreless first half, the skies open in a massive cloudburst which turns the pitch into a shallow lake. The Chileans' short-passing ball game becomes impossible but the Australians are not worried by the wet. Rale Rasic is to say later that a team which cannot adjust to all conditions is simply not a good team.

Abonyi has a great chance to score, but the ball sticks in the mud. Then Curran comes storming down the left wing all alone and passes the ball inside, to Mackay who had run down the centre at full speed. Tragically, Mackay is going too fast to control the wet ball and blasts his shot over the bar. Seconds from the end, Jack Reilly drops the ball and a Chilean goal seems certain, but Wilson saves the day once more, heading the shot clear, off the goal line.

The Australians have drawn 0-0 with Chile. The men who were once described in the British Press as "indescribably hopeless," have snatched a point in the World Cup finals. We had said all along that a draw would be as good as any vicotry.

The Socceroos from Down Under, who had been laughed at before the tournament started now hold their heads high. Of the World Cup newcomers, Australia has created the best impression. Unlike Zaire, which lost 0-9 to Yugoslavia and Haita which lost 0-7 to Poland, the Australians were always in the race, making their opponents fight their hearts out for every ball.

It is a personal triump for coach Rasic, who took over the team in 1970 and to this point has coached it in 58 matches, for 27 wins, 17 draws, 14 defeats, 96 goals scored and 58 goals conceded.

Sir Arthur George pays the Socceroos a special tribute.

"You have put Australia on the map for 700 million TV viewers much more effectively than all the diplomatic people who go overseas and spend hundreds of thousands of dollars," he tells them.

When the players of Haiti lined up before their first match, and their national anthem was played, they wept openly, so proud were they to represent their country. In Australia's case, it is the country which was proud to have such a team wearing the green and gold.

The Australian squad for the World Cup finals was:

Goalkeepers: Jack Reilly, Jim Milisavljevic (Vic), Allan Maher (NSW). Defenders: Peter Wilson, John Watkiss, Ivo Rudic, Harry Williams, Manfred Schaefer, Doug Utjesenovic, Col Curran (NSW).

Midfielders: Johnny Warren, Jimmy Rooney, Jimmy Mackay, Ray Richards, Dave Harding (NSW).

Forwards: Ernie Campbell, Gary Manuel, Adrian Alston, Attija Abonyi, Max Tolson, Peter Ollerton (NSW), Branko Buljevic (Vic).

Players' appearances in qualifying and finals games:

14. Utjesenovic, Wilson, Richards, Alston; 13. Mackay; 11. Schaefer, Baartz, Buljevic; 10. Rooney, Abonyi; 8. Curran; 7. Fraser; 6. Hogg; 5. Campbell, Warren, Tolson; 4. Corry; 3. Watkiss, Reilly; 2. Ollerton; 1. Vojtek, Williams.

Goals: 4. Alston; 3. Baartz, Mackay, Abonyi; 2. Campbell, Richards, Buljevic; 1. Utjesenovic, Wilson.

Details of World Cup Group One:

WEST GERMANY 1 (Breitner 16th. min) **CHILE 0,** June 14, 1974, West Berlin, crowd 83,168.

West Germany: Maier, Vogts, Schwarzenbeck, Beckenbauer, Breitner; Hoeness, Cullmann, Overath (Hoelzenbein 76th. min); Grabowski, Mueller, Heynckes.

Chile: Vallejos; Garcia, Figueroa, Quintano, Arias; Valdez (Veliz 79th), Rodrigues (Lara 84th), Reinoso; Caszely, Ahumada, Paez.

Referee: Dogan Babacan (Turkey).

EAST GERMANY 2 (Curran own goal 56th, Streich 68th.) **AUSTRALIA 0,** June 14, Hamburg, crowd 15,000.

East Germany: Croy; Kische, Bransch, Weise, Waetzlich; Sparwasser, Irmscher, Pommerenke; Loewe (Hoffmann 55th), Streich, Vogel.

Australia: Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards, Mackay, Rooney, Warren; Alston, Buljevic.

Referee: Youssoupha N'Diaye (Senegal).

Gerd Mueller (right), probably the greatest striker in soccer history, heads Germany's third goal past Jack Reilly and Manfred Schaefer.

The Socceroos protest angrily to referee Jafar Namdar who has shown the red card to Ray Richards during the scoreless draw with Chile, From left: Peter Ollerton, Jimmy Mackay, Manfred Schaefer, Branko Buljevic, Ray Richards (rear) and Doug Utjesenovic.

CHILE 1 (Ahumada 68th) **EAST GERMANY 1** (Hoffmann 56th), June 18, West Berlin, crowd 29,696.

Chile: Vallejos; Garcia, Figueroa, Quintano, Arias; Valdez (Yavar 46th), Reinoso, Paez; Socias (Farias 65th), Ahumada, Veliz.

East Germany: Croy; Kische, Bransch, Weise, Waetzlich; Seguin (Kreische 73rd). Irmscher, Sparwasser; Hoffmann, Streich, Vogel (Ducke 29th.).

WEST GERMANY 3 (Overath 13th., Cullmann 35th., Mueller 53rd). **AUSTRALIA 0,** June 17, Hamburg, crowd 55,000.

West Germany: Maier; Vogts, Schwarzenbeck, Beckenbauer, Breitner; Hoeness, Cullmann (Wimmer 67th.) Overath; Grabowski, Mueller, Heynckes (Hoelzenbein 46th).

Australia: Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards, Rooney, Mackay, Campbell (Abonyi 46th); Alston, Buljevic (Ollerton 60th).

Referee: Mustafa Kamel (Egypt).

AUSTRALIA 0 CHILE 0, June 22, West Berlin, crowd 16,038.

Australia; Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran (Williams 79th); Richards, (sent off 83rd), Rooney, Mackay, Abonyi; Alston (Ollerton 66th), Buljevic.

Chile: Vallejos; Garcia, Quintano, Figueroa, Arias; Paez, Reinoso, Valdez (Farias 57th); Caszely, Ahumada, Veliz (Yavar 72nd).

Referee: Jafar Namdar (Iran).

EAST GERMANY 1 (Sparwasser 78th) **WEST GERMANY 0,** June 22, Hamburg, crowd 60,341.

East Germany: Croy; Kische, Weise, Bransch, Waetzlich; Lauck, Irmscher (Hamann 65th), Kreische; Kurbjeweit, Sparwasser, Hoffmann.

West Germany: Maier; Vogts, Schwarzenbeck, (Hoettges 68th), Beckenbauer, Breitner; Hoeness, Cullmann, Overath (Netzer 69th); Grabowski, Mueller, Flohe.

West German captain Franz Beckenbauer is angry after the match. He does not want to exchange shirts with Australia's Peter Wilson (left). At right is Adrian Alston.

Referee: Ramon Barreto (Uruguay)

Group One standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
East Germany	2	1	0	4	1	5
West Germany	2	0	1	4	1	4
Chile	0	2	1	1	1	2
Australia	0	1	2	0	5	1

World Cup final:

WEST GERMANY 2 (Breitner penalty 25th., Mueller 43rd.) **HOLLAND 1** (Neeskens penalty 2nd.), July 7, Munich.

West Germany: Maier; Vogts, Schwarzenbeck, Beckenbauer, Breitner; Hoeness, Bonhof, Overath; Grabowski, Mueller, Hoelzenbein.

Holland: Jongbloed; Suurbier, Rijsbergen, Haan, Krol; Jansen, van Hanegem, Neeskens; Rep, Cruyff, Rensenbrink (van de Kerkhof 46th).

Referee: John Taylor (England).

A wirephoto of the Australians in West Germany, fourth row from left: Brian le Fevre (ASF secretary), Dr Brian Corrigan, Col Curran, Attila Abonyi, Manfred Schaefer, Ray Richards, John Warren, Ray Baartz. Third row: Eric Worthington (Australia's Director of Coaching), Sir Arthur George (ASF president), John Barclay (team manager), Rale Rasic (coach), Adrian Alson, Peter Wilson, Jack Reilly, Branko Buljevic, Dave Harding, Les Scheinflug (assistant coach), Kurt Roessler (German liaison officer with the team), Tom Grimson (ASF), Peter van Rijn (masseur). Second row: Allan Maher, Jim Milisavljevic, Jimmy Mackay, Jimmy Rooney, Harry Williams, Max Tolson, John Watkiss, Ivo Rudic. Front row: Ernie Campbell, Gary Manuel, Doug Utjesenovic, Peter Ollerton.

THE BOSS

Had you gone to Wollongong to meet Peter Wilson during the heady days of the 1973-74 World Cup campaign, you'd have found him five miles underground. Chances are you wouldn't have found him at all. He may have been out in the mountains, being by himself, or he may have been in his car on the way to Sydney or on the way back.

Wilson was doing the 160-mile round trip four times a week to train with Western Suburbs. It's an example of the dedication that made Wilson captain and king-pin of the Australian national team and also one of the most costly players in the country.

Marconi bought him from South Coast United for $6000 in 1971. The following year he went back to South Coast, then called Safeway United, for a transfer fee of $12,500 and in 1974 he joined Western Suburbs, for $9000. That makes a total of $27,500 in transfers, not counting the signing-on fees Wilson received every time he switched. It may not sound much in Rugby League or Australian Rules terms, but in the language of Australian soccer, Peter Wilson was the Six Million Dollar Man.

Wilson first won a place in the national team for the visit to Vietnam in early 1970, as substitute for Alan Marnoch who was unavailable. He became national captain when Johnny Warren was injured in 1971.

His height and strength made him the scourge of Asia and he was also one of the very best Australian players in West Germany. His courageous performances were seen nationwide on satellite TV and they drew paise from commentators throught Europe. During the series, he had rich offers from Tottenham Hotspur of London and Hertha BSC of West Berlin but he likes the life in Australia and decided to stay here.

"If I'd been a cricketer or a Rugby League player in a giant competition like the World Cup, I'd be rolling in money now, "Wilson said soon after returning from West Germany. But he's a soccer player and they're regarded differently. First, he lost a job as a car salesman in Wollongong because his employer didn't like him knocking off early to go training in Sydney. Wilson looked around for a job with the right hours and finally found one.

The captain of the Socceroos, arguably one of Australia's most important sportsmen, thus started working five miles underground in Wollongong's Nebo Colliery, cutting coal, working machinery and doing general laboring. Understandably, he was a little bitter that he was not set up with better employment as a result of the World Cup exposure.

Yet for all that, he loved living in Wollongong. "I love riding off to the mountains on my motorbike and staying there all day, by myself," he said.

Asked whether he had gained a certain amount of fame over the years, Wilson said: "Occasionally someone will recognise me in the street but not the way they recognise someone like Arthur Beetson, Graeme Langlands and Greg Chappell. We soccer players don't get the same Press coverage they do, not that I really want the fame. I'm a pretty quiet sort of person. I like to keep to myself. I tend to shun parties and I haven't got much of a social life.

"But I'm completely the opposite on the field. Referees don't like me at all because I put 100 per cent into my game and because I'm pretty outspoken during a game. I've been suspended a couple of times because of my clashes with referees. They can be pretty unreasonable sometimes. Once, in a game against Pan Hellenic, I pushed the ball through Raoul Carrizzo's legs and I had to laugh. See, we'd played together at Marconi and we'd always tried to do that to each other. But when I laughed, the referee told me off. He said my laughing was the type of thing that incited people to riot. He told me to stop laughing, would you believe it?"

Wilson retains a touch of the English accent but it's laced with hints of Strine. He comes from Newcastle, England, so perhaps he was destined to end up down a mine. He played for Middlesbrough, mainly in the reserves, and had the occasional game in the first team. "I decided to come to Australia," he says, "because I felt I wasn't really progressing at Middlesbrough. I had a few mates in Australia — Joe Kane who coached Marconi and Jim Kelly who coached South Coast — and they told me what a good life it is here."

The great Bobby Charlton goes crashing to the ground in front of Peter Wilson, in Australia's 2-1 win against the Bobby Charlton All-Stars in 1977.

Wilson was playing mainly as full back in England and in his early days at South Coast. It was not until the regular centre half, Phil Carr, was injured that Wilson shifted to the middle of hhe defence. It is as sweeper that Wilson made his mark.

Success followed him around. In his first year with South Coast, the club won its first ever championship. Marconi won the Sydney grand final after Wilson joined the club and it was also runner-up in the State Cup and semi-finalist in the Ampol Cup. In 1974 he led Western Suburbs to the Ampol Cup and Rothmans Cup finals but unfortunately Wests had to make do with second place. Now he hopes to lead APIA to the Philips League championship.

Being a soccer star didn't make things all that rosy for Peter and his wife, Robyn. He, like many other national team players, lost four jobs because of the time he had to devote to the green and gold. This resulted in financial difficulties, which were aggravated by low payments to the Socceroos by the ASF. During the 1975 series against the USSR, the players received only a $20-a-day allowance, minus about $4 tax. It got so bad that at one stage the players hired a manager Peter Muscat, to do their negotiating for them.

Wilson rates Australia's match against the eventual 1974 world champion, West Germany, as the most memorable of his career. "You'd heard so much ubout them, then you played against them and found out that they were even better than you had expected. Players pike Beckenbauer and Overath and Mueller were unbelievable. Beckenbauer is the greatest, most incredible player I have ever seen.

He rates Streich of East Germany, Mueller of West Germany, Edu of Santos, Spiegler of Israel and John Duncan of Dundee as the finest forwards he has played against.

Of Gerd Mueller, one of the most uncanny goalscorers in soccer history, Wilson says: "Technically, he's not so good, but he can't help but score goals. Manfred Schaefer, who was born in Germany, shadowed Mueller when we played the Germans but Mueller still managed to score a goal. Schaefer talked to him throughout the match in German but don't ask me what he said."

Debacle of 1977: only Hong Kong was worse

Considering all the handicaps, it would have been truly remarkable had the Socceroos succeeded in the 1977 World Cup qualifying series. They failed, of course, quite miserably, finishing second-last in their five-nation Asian qualifying series. What a comedown from the glory of 1973-74!

Excluding victories over lowly Hong Kong, which was clearly outclassed by all other nations, Australia's results against Iran, Kuwait and South Korea showed only one win (against South Korea in Seoul) and four losses, with three goals for and six against.

The beginning of the Socceroos' fall from grace must be traced back to the bitter split between national coach Rale Rasic and the Australian Soccer Federation after the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany. As a result of the split, the national team lost its powerful leader and it was not until late in 1975 that Englishman Brian Green was appointed as Rasic's successor. Green, however, slipped out of Australia secretly the following year, disgraced by a conviction for shoplifting, so his successor, Jim Shoulder, had barely a year to prepare for the 1977 World Cup campaign. In contrast, Rasic started his build-up towards the 1973 qualifying series in 1970.

Shortage of time and instability in leadership were only part of the reason for the Socceroos' failure. Staffing of the team was another.

The 73-74 squad included men who had played in a good class of football in Europe, men like Doug Utjesenovic, Jack Reilly, Jimmy Jackay, Branko Buljevic, Jimmy Rooney, Peter Wilson and Adrian Alston. All were in their prime. The squad also included Johnny Warren, Attila Abonyi, John Watkiss, Ernie Campbell, Ray Richards, Manfred Schaefer, Col Curran — all-time greats who were either born in Australia or learned their soccer here and who were battle-hardened by many international campaigns at home and abroad. All were big-time players with big personalities. All were winners in every sense of the word and, most important, all were in their prime. Rooney, Wilson, Alston, Abonyi and, briefly, Curran, were there in 1977 but none was as good as he had been. Alston, in particular, was only a dim shadow of the great player he had been in 1974. The others were all gone — Utjesenovic sidelined by injury, Reilly in the squad but only on the bench, Mackay, Schaefer, Warren and Watkiss retired and Buljevic, Richards, and Campbell omitted.

From left: Ron Armstrong, Tony Sibley and John Houghton form a defensive wall against Australia in their World Cup match in Sydney in 1977.

Thus, to maintain its hight standard, the national team had to find replacement players who had played good soccer overseas, or who had the same qualities of leadership and strength of personality as Richards, Warren or Schaefer.

This was virtually impossible. Even soccer nations like West Germany, Brazil, Italy and England find it difficult to replace successful national teams.

But Shoulder made it more difficult for himself than it should have been. Buljevic, who was playing the best soccer of his life that year, and Richards, who was in fine form with Marconi, would have given the national team part of what it lacked. Despite a number of public statements that "everyone has a chance", Shoulder never gave a chance to Buljevic or Richards despite pressure from all quarters.

On the field, the players themselves were given to inexplicable lapses of concentration, which proved disastrous. Opponents who should have been marked closely were allowed to roam at will, goals were missed from ideal positions — and, tragically, a penalty miss cost the team at least a draw with Iran in Melbourne.

That 0-1 loss to Iran was enough to indicate to most realists that Australia would not make it to Argentina. Theoretically, however, Australia still had a chance of winning the group with two matches to go, but both Peter Wilson and Adrian Alston had to serve FIFA suspension and therefore, missed the second-last match against Kuwait, and John Kosmina was sent off the field in the first half. Kuwait won that match 1-0, and that was that. With Kosmina and George Harris suspended from the last match against Iran, Australia again lost 0-1 but by then, results didn't matter any more.

The 1977 qualifying series started with two games against Taiwan, played in neutral Fiji because the Australian Government refused to issue visas to the visitors. In the prelude to these matches, Shoulder's assistant coach Ron Smith spoke out strongly against the Press and defender Jim Tansey of Fitzroy-Alexander was told he'd be left out of the squad because he was not naturalised.

In an interview with Leif Jensen in "Soccer Action", Ron Smith said: "I think the Press is far too destructive, especially when it reports on representative matches. Players are rarely given a boost or made to feel good at State or national levels when they play well, win or lose . . . They (the Press) should not try to get at individuals and try to turn their reporting into something really personal, as is happening to Jim Shoulder. That sort of reporting does nothing for the game. Just as a matter of interest, I always thought that players won matches, but according to the Press in Australia, it seems to be the coaches."

In the same interview, Smith said: "I honestly believe that we have an excellent chance of qualifying for the World Cup and scoring goals when we get there. A positive attitude will get positive results and if Australia is to be a force in international soccer in the future, we have to forget about trying to sneak victories and try to win by playing better than the opposition. I'm sure the lads will do it . . ."

Steve Perry, then of Western Suburbs, was standing by to replace Jim Tansey but he missed out on a trip when Tansey was flown to Fiji after all, and naturalised in a special ceremony at Suva.

The Socceroos left Sydney with red faces after having lost 0-1 in a practice match against Western Suburbs, but they played well to beat Taiwan 3-0 in the first qualifying game at Ba. The victory broke their run of 11 games without victory.

The most exciting aspect of the win was the superb form of Jimmy Rooney who scored two goals and could easily have got four. Taiwan lined up with three stoppers, two sweepers and only one man up front. Having managed only a 2-2 draw with Fiji and a 3-3 draw with the local Lautoka side in warm-up matches, the Taiwanese obviously believed that a packed defence was their only chance of avoiding a painful hiding. Yet, despite the safety first tactics, the Taiwanese could not control Rooney' John Kosmina nor Atti Abonyi who cut the defence to ribbons. After Rooney had made it 1-0, Abonyi added another in the 16th minute with a memorable overhead kick. With Rooney, Gary Byrne and Agenor Muniz holding an iron grip on midfield, Australia surged to a 3-0 lead with Rooney's second goal only a minute after half time.

Shoulder predicted the Socceroos would win the second game by between three and five goals, and blamed the Taiwanese rough tackling when the score turned out to be only 2-1. Kosmina and Abonyi scored the goals, while Fang replied for Taiwan.

"They showed no hesitation in not just bringing people down but chopping them very hard," Shoulder said about Taiwan's play. But it was the Taiwanese who went away battered and broken. Fu Po-Tsun had two cracked ribs, You Cheng-Kun had a cracked right shin bone and Do Tson-Fu was nursing a bruised face and cut lips and gums. The Fiji press quoted Taiwan's coach Lew Pak as saying: " The Australians are dirty players. They deliberately punch, push and foul you. It gets the players mad."

Taiwan scored first, after 28 minutes when Fang latched onto a through ball and slotted a low shot past Todd Clarke. Kosmina equalised seven minutes later when he headed home an Agenor Muniz corner and earlier, Peter Ollerton had had a goal disallowed for offside.

The 1977 Socceroos, standing from left: Gary Marocchi, Dave Harding, Dave Jones, John Kosmina, Jack Reilly, Allan Maher, Murray Barnes, Peter Ollerton, Col Bennet, Jim Shoulder (coach). Front: Peter van Rijn (physiotherapist), Attila Abonyi, John Nyskohus, Agenor Muniz, Peter Wilson, Jimmy Rooney, Gary Byrne, George Harris, Harry Williams. Missing: Jim Tansey, Peter Sharne, Peter Stone.

Abonyi missed a sitter with only the goalkeeper to beat and George Harris scrambled another shot by Fang off the line before Abonyi made amends for earlier errors by scoring the winning goal from a goalmouth scramble just before heavy rain started to bucket down.

Peter Stone, a midfielder with Western Suburbs in Sydney, made his debut for Australia in this match, playing at right back. George Harris moved to the left, to replace Harry Williams who flew home to Australia after learning of the death of his brother.

Having managed an aggregate score of only 5-1 against Taiwan, the Socceroos waited anxiously while their next opponent, New Zealand thrashed Taiwan 6-0 and 6-0 at home. Keith Nelson proved a deadly striker in those two games, and he continued his good work for the Kiwis by putting them into the lead against Australia in front of 12,000 people at the Sydney Cricket Ground on March 27. His goal came in only the fourth minute and things looked black indeed for Australia until the 60th minute when Peter Ollerton finally equalised before Australia surged to a 3-1 victory.

Harry Williams and John Kosmina had never been better and Ollerton recaptured his deadliest goalscoring form in that game. Williams dominated the left flank completely in the second half, breaking through at will to send over crosses and working well with Jimmy Rooney who also concentrated on the left.

New Zealand's early goal caused impatience and a little panic in the Australian team. Instead of holding the ball in attack and creating moves on the ground, the Socceroos lunged at goal in a direct way which New Zealand's defenders found predictable. All that changed after half time, but meanwhile, the Australian supporters had to survive a lot of agony. New Zealand, as had been expected, based its game on defence, knowing it needed only to draw to qualify for the main Asian elimination series. Best of the defenders were Adrian Elrick, Tony Sibley and goalkeeper Kevin Curtin but New Zealand's best man overall was hard-working midfielder Brian Turner. Australia dominated the first half in general play but the crowd wanted goals, so they booed the players as they left the ground at half time. The spectators' mood improved when Ollerton equalised from Williams' cross and they started cheering enthusiastically when John Kosmina evaded two tackles and smashed home a second goal in the 72nd minute. Then, Williams galloped down the left flank yet again and passed inside to Kosmina who sent an inspired long pass to Ollerton standing unmarked in the middle. Ollerton advanced with the ball, picking his spot, before shooting past Curtin for the third and final goal.

Agenor Muniz was replaced by Dave Harding in the 67th minute and it turned out to be Muniz's last match for Australia. Apparently he had not done what Shoulder had wanted him to do.

New Zealand's line-up was: Curtin, Sibley, Houghton, Elrick, R. Armstrong; Campbell (Dodd 65th), Turner, Summer, Taylor; Nelson, Weymouth (Park 82nd).

To qualify for the next round, Australia needed only a draw in the return match in Auckland. A draw is all the Socceroos got — and it took every ounce of their energy and all the fight they could muster. Although Peter Ollerton gave Australia an 18th minute lead, New Zealand fought back and played like men possessed, coming forward in waves like a marauding gang of renegades. The discipline and self-control of the Australians in the face of these onslaughts, was magnificent. Peter Wilson was the giant among giants. Tom Anderson, who reported the match for "Soccer Action", wrote: "This was probably Wilson's finest hour. He led by example and rallied his troops reminiscent of Montgomery at the Battle of Alamein."

The Kiwis' line-up in this match was:

Curtin; Sibley, Houghton, Elrick, R. Armstrong; Turner, Summer, Taylor; Dodds, Nelson, Weymouth.

Australia thus won the Oceania sub-group to advance to the main Asian qualifying series.

Details:

OCEANIA SUB-GROUP: Australia v Taiwan 3-0, 2-1; New Zealand v Taiwan 6-0, 6-0; Australia v New Zealand 3-1, 1-1.

Final standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Australia	3	1	0	9	3	7
New Zealand	2	1	1	14	4	5
Taiwan	0	0	4	1	17	0

ASIAN SUB-GROUP ONE (played in Singapore): Singapore v Thailand 2-1, Hong Kong v Indonesia 4-1, Malaysia v Thailand 6-4, Singapore v Hong Kong 2-2, Indonesia v Malaysia 0-0, Hong Kong v Thailand 2-1, Singapore v Malaysia 1-0, Thailand v Indonesia 3-2 Hong Kong v Malaysia 1-1, Singapore v Indonesia 0-4.

Group One standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Hong Kong	2	2	0	9	5	6
Singapore	2	1	1	5	6	5
Malaysia	1	2	1	7	6	4
Indonesia	1	1	2	7	7	3
Thailand	1	0	3	8	12	2

Group One final: Singapore v Hong Kong 0-1. Hong Kong therefore advanced to the next round.

ASIAN SUB-GROUP TWO: Israel v South Korea 0-0, 1-3; Israel v Japan 2-0, 2-0; Japan v South Korea 0-0, 0-1.

Group Two standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
South Korea	2	2	0	4	1	6
Israel	2	1	1	5	3	5
Japan	0	1	3	0	5	1

ASIAN SUB-GROUP THREE: Saudi Arabia v Syria 2-0, 1-2; Saudi Arabia v Iran 0-3, 0-2; Syria v Iran 0-1, 0-2 (2-0 awarded to Iran after Syria withdrew).

Group Three standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Iran	4	0	0	8	0	6
Saudi Arabia	1	0	3	3	7	2
Syria	1	0	3	2	6	2

ASIAN SUB-GROUP FOUR: Bahrain v Kuwait 0-2, 1-2; Qatar v Bahrain 2-0, 0-3; Kuwait v Qatar 2-0, 4-1.

Group Four standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Kuwait	4	0	0	10	2	8
Qatar	1	0	3	3	9	2
Bahrain	1	0	3	4	6	2

The five nations in the final qualifying group were therefore: Iran, Kuwait, South Korea, Hong Kong and Australia.

THAT MISSED PENALTY

Everyone connected with the national team was ecstatic over the draw for the final qualifying series. Australia was to play all its home matches first. The plan therefore, would be to build up as many points and goals as possible at

The end of Australia's 1977 World Cup mission: Dave Harding (obscured behind Iran's No.6) puts a penalty kick over the bar at Olympic Park. The arrow indicates the ball.

home and to play a more defensive game in the away ties.

The first game, against Hong Kong in Adelaide, appeared a simple enough task. Although coach Frans van Balkom had played and coached in Victoria (with Wilhelmina and Caulfield City) and had gained impressive qualifications in West Germany, Hong Kong had never had an impressive national team.

Australia won the match 3-0, but did not play well. Play was too slow and only one of the forwards, John Kosmina, could beat the Hong Kong defenders. Very few chances were created with constructive play. Instead, they resulted mainly from mistakes by the visitors. "Australia didn't play very well but did enough to beat us." van Balkom said afterwards. "I don't think the Australian players are very fit." Attila Abonyi, who was on the bench, said: "We didn't appear to be interested in the second half."

Midfielder Dave Harding, striker Kosmina who scored two goals, and left back Harry Williams were the only Australians who rose above the ordinary. Their ability was matched by three Hong Kong men — centre back Choi York Yee who marked Peter Ollerton effectively, captain Wu Twok Hung who alternated between defence and attack like Australia's Jimmy Mackay of old and Li Kwai Hung, another industrious midfielder. Captain Peter Wilson, usually solid as steel, was shaky this time, Abonyi's replacement John Nyskohus figured in only two or three good attacks and Murray Barnes, playing in midfield, showed only that he shouldn't play there at top international level. Shrewd South Australian coach Edmund Kreft, then boss of Adelaide City, said: "Australia has problems. It did not play for its goals. It had no flair in midfield and made some silly mistakes in defence."

Hong Kong's team was: Chu Kwok Kuen; Chain Fat Chi (Chung Chor Wai 65th), Choi York Yee, Lai Sun Cheun, Chan Sai Kan; Tsan Ting Fai, Li Kwai Hung, Wu Twok Hung; Kwok Ka Ming. Cheung Ka Ping, Lau Wing Yip (Sze Kin Hai half time).

The next match was against Iran, in Melbourne. If Australia proved strong enough to beat Iran, it would have a solid chance of qualifying for the finals, as Iran had gained valuable experience in the 1976 Olympic tournament in Canada.

The Iranian squad contained four survivors from the squad that had beaten australia 2-0 in Teheran during the 1973 qualifying series — Nasser Hejazi, Mohammad Sadeghi, Gholam Mazloomi and the great Ali Parvin. Goalkeeper Hejazi had been brilliant the previous Saturday in almost single-handedly holding Romania to a scoreless draw in a warm-up game in Teheran.

Socceroo Col Bennett slides under Ghafoor Johari of Iran to clear the ball.

Not a single World Cup goal had been scored against Iran before it arrived in Melbourne, but the Socceroos were confident that in Peter Ollerton and especially John Kosmina — who was being described as possibly the finest forward the nation had produced — they had the men who could crack the visitors' strong rearguard.

Iranian coach Heshmat Mohajerani expressed the opinon on arrival at Tullamarine that the Australian team was not as good as it was in 1973 and that while Australian standards had slipped, Iran had made remarkable progress. That's why Iran would beat Australia in their World Cup match at Olympic Park, he said. Answering Mohajerani's claim that Australia had a better team in 1973, Jim Shoulder said only: "I don't want to get involved in a slanging match with him."

Continuing the phsychological warfare, Mohajerani demanded that Australia's players be given anti-dope tests at the game. "There have been many rumors back home about Australian players using stimulants. I am not saying that they are true, but there is no harm in making sure," he said. "The Socceroos laughed at suggestions that they took drugs. Peter Wilson, commenting about his sore knee, joked: "If it gets any worse, I could have a shot of heroin, I suppose."

Shoulder retained the same team that had beaten Hong Kong 3-0, with John Nyskohus in attack ahead of Abonyi, and Barnes holding his midfield post.

When the final result was on the Olympic Park scoreboard — AUSTRALIA 0 IRAN 1, Mohajerani's claims about the Australian team (apart from those about drugs) had been proved right. It was bye-bye to the Socceroos' World Cup hopes.

Australia may have had 80 per cent of the play, but that's how Mohajerani had planned it. The Iranians came to force a draw, so they played defensively, surrendering the midfield and relying on breakaway attacks. They couldn't have done it better. Centre back Hossein Kazerani was like the Colossus of Rhodes in defence, Hassan Nazari overlapped brilliantly on the right, 35-year-old Andranik Eskandarian cut John Kosmina out of the game, Mohammad Sadeghi broke up Australia's attacks in midfield and started many of his own, and the twin strikers, Hassan Rowshan and Ghafoor Johani, were excellent. What's more, Iran's ball skills were far superior to those of Australia. Harry Williams, George Harris, Jimmy Rooney and, in the first half, Col Bennett, were the only Socceroos who looked competent. Attila Abonyi, our most experienced World Cup player and the national team's all-time top scorer, seemed the obvious replacement for John Nyskohus who couldn't do a thing right but Shoulder said after the game he had not considered Abonyi. Instead, he brought on Peter Sharne with 20 minutes to go. It was Sharne's first appearance in a full international.

"Johnny Nyskohus, Peter Ollerton and John Kosmina weren't getting behind the defence, so I hoped Sharne would manage it," Shoulder said afterwards. He said he had not considered bringing on Abonyi because Abonyi was not quick enough to get behind the defence.

Australia blew its chance of winning the match when Dave Harding missed a penalty in the 44th minute. Rooney's cross was heading through a gap in the defence and when Nasrulah Abdullahi lunged at the ball in despair and touched it with his hand, referee Wohrer of Austria pointed to the spot. Harding moved to the ball as 17,000 fans held their breath, but his shot whistled over the crossbar and he fell to his knees, a shattered man.

The winning goal came in the 68th minute. Sadeghi broke through the middle of the defence and goalkeeper Allan Maher managed only to tap out Sadeghi's shot with one hand. Rowshan followed up to ram the loose ball into the net.

As Shoulder walked down the corridor under the Olympic Park grandstand, heading towards the post-match Press "grilling," he turned to his companion and former national coach Tony Boggi and said: "This is the part I hate most."

At the Press conference, Shoulder agreed Australia had had most of the play but added: "We didn't create much. On the day, Harry Williams and George Harris were the only players who showed any spark at all." Yet he said he would make no changes to the squad for the match against South Korea in Sydney on August 27.

The Iranian team was:

Hejazi; Nazari, Abdullahi, Kazerani, Eskandarian; Parvin, Sadeghi, Nayabagha, Ghassempour (Khabiri 79th); Rowshan, Johani.

The meeting between Australia and South Korea in Sydney was the ninth match between the two nations. Of the previous eight, Australia had won four and drawn four, scoring 12 goals and conceding seven.

In the 1973 qualifying series, South Korea had held Australia to 0-0 and 2-2 before finally losing the tie-breaker 0-1 in neutral Hong Kong. Six players remained from the 1973 squad — strikers Kim Jae Han, Cha Bum Keun and Kim Hee Tae, midfielder Kim Jai Kook, right back Kim Ho Kon and goalkeeper Byoun Ho Young.

The appearance of Attila Abonyi and Gary Byrne as substitutes in the 64th minute, the emergence of Peter Ollerton in the second half and the opportunism of John Kosmina swung

Hassan Nazari has the better of Murray Barnes in the Australia v Iran World Cup match.

The Iranians train at Middle Park for their World Cup clash. From left: Ghafoor Johani, Nasrulah Abdullahi, Hossein Kazerani, Hassan Nayabagha, Ali Parvin.

the balance Australia's way after South Korea had dominated the first half at the Sydney Sports Ground. A serious injury to Korean goalkeeper Byoun Ho Young also contributed to Australia's 2-1 victory.

Australia was thoroughly outplayed and outrun by the fast, skilful, imaginative Koreans for the whole of the first half. Few quick breaks were created by the Australians. Their match plan was to go down the wings and cross to the head of Peter Ollerton. Only when Abonyi came on for John Nyskohus did Australia start varying its attacking play. Additional pep was provided by Byrne when he came on for George Harris. Up to that point, Nyskohus and Harris had been liabilities, but other players weren't too good either. Rooney and Harding, for example, failed to function the way they should have in midfield, and the defenders were too loose on Korea's twin strikers — Cha Bum Keun and Kim Jae Han — especially in the first half. These two strikers were magnificent. Kim drew opponents to him and Cha exploited the space thus created. It was their partnership that put the Koreans into the lead after 23 minutes. Left back Kang Byung Chan sent a long free kick into the goal area where Kim headed the ball down to unmarked Cha who smashed it hard into the net. Cha was devastating in Korea's attack but it wasn't until the second half that Williams acknowledged the danger and marked him more tightly. Korea had another winner midfielder Cho Kwang Lae, clearly the best player afield. He not only marked Rooney but was also the creative artist of the team.

Byrne and Abonyi were warming up on the sidelines to the cheers of the crowd when Australia scored its equalising goal in the 63rd. minute. Peter Wilson, who had come up from defence, got onto the end of a Rooney free kick and tried a low shot which goalkeeper Byoun Ho Young could only deflect to his left. Kosmina ran onto the loose ball and put it into the net.

Only three minutes after coming into the team, Abonyi was headed for goal on a good through pass from Ollerton. Goalkeeper Byoun dashed out courageously to meet Abonyi. They clashed heavily and Byoun could not get up. He was carried off on a stretcher and later taken by ambulance to St. Vincent's Hospital with an inury to the lower spinal region. He was later to recover fully.

Byoun's replacement, Kim Whang Ho, was a few inches shorter and as a result had much difficulty in the air.

Australia's winning goal came in the 75th.

Peter Wilson and Mohammad Sadeghi of Iran in an aerial duel at Olympic Park.

minute. Murray Barnes split up the defence with a good solo run before the ball rolled free to Byrne who crossed it into the middle. Ollerton challenged goalkeeper Kim and it was left to Cho Young Jeung to hook the ball into what he hoped would be safety. Instead, Cho's kick hit Kosmina on the chest and bounced back, into the net for the winning goal.

South Korea's line-up was:

Byoun Ho Young (injured, Kim Whang Ho 66th.); Kim Ho Kon, Park Sung Wha, Cho Young Jeung, Kang Byung Chan; Huh Jung Moo, Choi Jong Duk (Kim Jin Kook), Cho Kwang Lae, Park Sang In; Cha Bum Keun, Kim Jae Han.

At the Victorian Rothmans Medal presentation a few days before Australia's match against Kuwait in Sydney, ASF president Sir Arthur George made a speech in which he said: "The Australian team has not performed as well this year as we had hoped. Some of the older players are failing a little and there are not enough young players like John Kosmina coming forward. However, it's not that we have failed badly, but that others have done better. Australia is the only semi-professional team left in the World Cup in the Asian region. Kuwait, for example, offered $150,000 to each of the other nations to play the qualifying tournament in Kuwait. Iran's players were offered $4 million by the Shah to eliminate Australia specifically. (ed. — a figure that is hardly accurate). South Korea's team is fully professional. Hong Kong is also professional. Meanwhile, Peter Wilson goes down a coal mine five days a week, then goes and plays for Australia."

Kuwait's coach was none other than Mario Zagalo, former international player and national coach of Brazil. In warm-up games, Kuwait had drawn 0-0 with Wales in Wales but had lost 1-7 to West Ham United. A measure of Kuwait's wealth was that Zagalo earned $200,000 a year and that each of the national squad players earned about $50,000.

Lack of skill in comparison with Kuwait's ball artistry, and lack of wing play were what contributed most heavily to Australia's 1-2 loss to Kuwait at the Sports Ground. Afterwards, Zagalo's assistant Carlos Alberto Parreiras said: "Australia is not a team. It is a joke. The Australians have no imagination, no organisation, no tactical knowledge at all. They let you know in advance every move they make."

Zagalo the master summed up the tactical aspect of the match when he described Australia's attacks as stereotyped. "Australia kept up crosses, crosses and more crosses into our goalmouth and that fitted right into our tactics," he said. Australia's 1-2 loss was simply an extension of the poor form the team had shown throughout the qualifying series.

Kuwait's style reflected Zagalo's experience and emphasis on ball skill. Forward Fati Kamil whom Zagalo called the "Arabian Pele" was the personification of that skill. Kamil not only demoralised his direct opponent, Harry Williams, but also toyed with Peter Wilson, Col Bennett and anyone else who tried to challenge him.

Tactically, Kuwait had the composure to play fast counter-attacks after letting the Socceroos advance. In doing so, it relied on interceptions rather than tackles, sensing perhaps that the naive, over-eager Australians would lose the ball anyway. This match gave special meaning to an observation by Zagalo who said: "It is up to the coach to set a style for the nation and it has to be the style that is getting results for the world's most successful teams."

Jim Shoulder had flown to Soeul to study Kuwait in action against South Korea. One would have thought that after having established that the Kuwaitis were skilft ball players, Shoulder would have instructed his players to play tight on their opponents and prevent them from using, those ball skills. That's how Australia demoralised Uruguay in 1974. But watching the game against Kuwait it seemed Australia was playing without plan or purpose. Certainly the Kuwaitis were not being marked closely. However, Jim Rooney who played with a painful back injury, defended Shoulder after the game, saying: "We had a plan, believe me. Don't blame Jim Shoulder; he always cops the blame when we lose. It's the players on the park, no-one else!" According to Rooney, the players had been told to drop back quickly into their own half when they lost the ball, and to let Kuwait play its soccer in its defensive half. Yet this tactic seemed more illogical than any other. Give a skilful team the chance to show off its skills in any part of the field, and it will gather more and more confidence as the game progresses, just as Kuwait did.

Kuwait took the lead four minutes before half time. Farouk Ibrahim blasted a long ball out of defence to Kamil who would have scored easily, having beaten Williams, but Williams brought him down. Kamil took the free kick himself and sent it high into the corner of the net.

At half time Shoulder replaced struggling Dave Harding with Peter Stone who was also a failure. Four minutes later Kamil sliced open the Australian defence with a solo run past Williams and Wilson and a one-two with Saed Mohammed. The move gave Feisal Ali a chance to shoot but goalkeeper Allan Maher pushed the ball out to Abdul Aziz who smahed it into the empty net for Kuwait's second goal.

Australia's consolation score came through Rooney who nipped between the two centre backs and lifted the ball over goalkeeper Tarabulsi. The goal gave Australia the motivation for a spirited final fling but all shots were unsuccessful, and Kuwait held on to win.

Kuwait's team was:

Tarabulsi; Ahmed Hussein, Adnan Abdullah, Abdullah Jusuf, Sultan Jakob; Faruk Ibrahim (Saed Khalid 85th), Saad Mohammad, Hamrad Khaled; Fati Kamil, Feisal Ali, Abdul Aziz Saud.

Australia was second last in the Asian group as it started its programme of away matches, the first against South Korea in Seoul.

In a sensational development, Attila Abonyi threatened to hang up his national team boots if he was again omitted from the team. He had sat on the bench for the four home matches, coming on as a substitute in only two of them. "Not knowing the reason for being left out is the worst part," he said, "and I think that is pretty unfair. After 10 years in the national team I am determined not to finish my career this way, as a forgotten man. I am in the twilight stages of my international days and I would like to finish on the right note. When he doesn't pick you it makes you stop and think and lose a bit of confidence and being in the dark about it only makes it worse. If I'm not good enough to play now. I shouldn't he here. I'm not being bigheaded but I hate coming along just for the ride, feeling like a tourist. Instead of being in the squad to sit on the bench, I would rather see an 18-year-old who has a whole career in front of him, come along for the experience."

I don't know whether Shoulder was aware of Abonyi's discontent but he decided to use Abonyi against South Korea and he stayed on for the full 90 minutes.

Abonyi's inclusion was one of three changes made by Shoulder for this game. Abonyi replaced Adrian Alston, while Gary Byrne and Peter Stone replaced midfielders Dave Harding and Murray Barnes. Of Alston's omission, Shoulder said: "I was not totally satisfied with his performance against Kuwait in Sydney, and neither was he. We both felt that he could have been more positive and tried a few things, even if they hadn't come off."

Australia held South Korea to a scoreless draw in a match of missed chances by both sides, in front of 30,000 spectators. Peter Oller-

John Kosmina has just scored Australia's winning goal against South Korea in Sydney. Australians pictured from left: Attila Abonyi, Col Bennett, Murray Barnes, Kosmina, Jimmy Rooney.

South Australian John Kosmina became a nation-wide star with attacking flair like this. The picture is from Australia's 2-1 victory over South Kora in Sydney.

John Kosmina blasts a shot at goal against a Kuwaiti opponent in Sydney.

Peter Ollerton does an overhead kick in Australia's 1977 scoreless draw with South Korea in Seoul.

The mean machine

"I don't give a damn what the Press thinks because most of them have never played soccer and don't know what they are talking about."

It was Peter Ollerton talking about the criticism levelled against him during Australia's 1977 World Cup campaign. The statement is typical of Ollerton's straightforward, hard-hitting approach.

At his best, this approach made him a feared opponent on the field — especially in Asia where the physically smaller opponents were scared stiff of the "Big O" as he is known.

But Ollerton's aggression also got him into trouble. His clashes with coaches Manny Poulakakis, Con Xanthopoulos and Dave Maclaren at South Melbourne Hellas made sensational headlines. There were also clashes at his previous club, APIA-Leichhardt.

It was Rale Rasic who first gave Ollerton a chance in the national team, for a game against the visiting Auckland XI in 1974. Two matches later, he scored a memorable goal in Australia's 2-0 victory over Uruguay at the Sydney Cricket Ground, so he was included in the squad that went to West Germany for the World Cup finals. He appeared as a substitute against West Germany and Chile and from that point until the end of the 1977 World Cup qualifying series, he was a regular in the national team.

Ollerton is the third-highest Socceroo goalscorer since Federation. He has a total of 20 goals, 13 of them in full internationals. Only Attila Abonyi and Ray Baartz have scored more.

This burly, 6ft. 1ins. striker was an apprentice with Preston North End in England and played for Blackpool reserves before coming to Melbourne in 1971 to join Ringwood Wilhelmina.

His scoring record with Wilhelmina was 14 goals in 1971, 15 in 1972 and four in 1973 before he transferred to APIA.

He scored 15 goals for APIA in his first season to finish runner-up among the NSW First Division scorers. He was top scorer in the league with 18 goals in 1974 and 17 goals in 1975 before being sold to South Melbourne Hellas for $9000. In his first year with Hellas — 1976 — he notched 10 State League goals but in 1977, the first season of the Philips League, he managed only six.

In the first 12 games of 1978, Ollerton scored seven goals for Hellas but then came his clash with coach Maclaren. As a result, he was sold to Marconi for a reported $15,000 but he managed only two goals there in 10 league games. He found it difficult to settle down in Sydney and so he returned to Melbourne at the end of the year.

Ollerton's most memorable goal scoring feat was netting five in APIA's 9-1 victory over Auburn in the 1974 NSW Ampol Cup final. He represented NSW six times and Victoria eight times.

The most recent chapter of his career started just before the 1979 PSL kick-off, when Footscray J.U.S.T. bought him from Marconi for a reported $9000.

ton missed chances galore but at least managed to get into scoring positions — something of which the other forwards could not boast. South Korea took charge of the second half and only solid defence by the Australians kept the result scoreless.

South Korea's team was:

Kim Hee Cheon; Choi Jong Deok, Park Sung Wha, Choi Young Jeung (Kim Hee Tae 53rd), Kim Ho Kong, Huh Jung Moo, Park San In, Kim Kang Nam, Park Joung Whoon (Lee Young Moo 80th), Kim Jae Han, Cha Bum Keun.

The Socceroos were stunned before their next match, against Hong Kong in Hong Kong, to read that ASF president Sir Arthur George had said they were not good enough to reach the finals in Argentina. The "South China Morning Post" quoted an article in the "Sydney Morning Herald" in which Sir Arthur was reported as saying: "The players are the problem. They either have the skills or they haven't. It would not matter who was coaching the present Australian team — the plain fact is they are not good enough. I don't think we will go to Argentina."

Shoulder and his players were unaware of Sir Arthur's reported statement until they read the "Morning Post" only a few hours before the match against Hong Kong.

Shoulder said: "All I would say about it is a terse no comment." When pressed he added: "I have been taught to be a professional and I don't believe it shows professional ethics to comment about someone in the same organisation." Asked if this should also apply to Sir Arthur, Shoulder said: "All I know is that it applies to me." The Australian players were reluctant to be quoted about Sir Arthur's statement but their comments off-the-record left no doubt that they went out against Hong Kong with their backs up, determined to prove the ASF president wrong. And so they beat Hong Kong 5-2, largely due to the merciless attitude of Peter Ollerton who notched a hat-trick. The Hong Kong stadium held happy memories for the more experienced players in the team — Curran, Wilson, Rooney and Abonyi who played there in Australia's 1-0 victory over South Korea in the final match of the 1973 qualifying series.

Ollerton scored his hat-trick in the first 26 minutes and a penalty converted by Abonyi gave Australia a 4-0 lead after 59 minutes before Hong Kong fought back to 4-2 with goals by Tang Hung Cheong and Chung Chor Wai. Col Bennett made it 5-2 in the 85th. minute with a well-placed header.

Australia topped the table in the Asian group after this win but Iran had two matches in hand.

The match was a triumph for big Ollerton who had copped much criticism for some below-average performances. Shoulder said after the game: "I've always been a great believer in Peter Ollerton. I was very pleased for him. He does an awful lot of work and he has consistently been the one to get on the end of chances. Sometimes he has been guilty of bad finishing but often he has been guilty of gross bad luck. He's been dogged by goalkeepers' knees and elbows and sundry defenders clearing his shots off the line but at last three went in for him." Hong Kong coach Frans van Balkom claimed Ollerton had punched a Hong Kong player to the ground in the second half. "Bloody Ollerton hit that player," van Balkom said. ... "He punched him in the face and a ring on his finger cut his eye. He had to go to hospital for stitches." But the Hong Kong coach also had praised for the "Big O". "Ollerton has improved 100 per cent since I last saw him. But I must say our centre half was playing like a schoolboy against him. He gave him too much freedom. Ollerton had all the room in the world and he could pick his spot."

The games against South Korea and Hong Kong showed improvement in the play of Peter Wilson who had not enjoyed a good season at club or international level. "Peter has had his problems this season," said Shoulder, "and he's had his problems a little bit in his own mind. His confidence hasn't been the best. We had a long talk about his function in the team and what he was expected to do, particularly in the match against Hong Kong. He went out and did it. He asserted his authority on the game right from the start, took a grip on proceedings and got on with the job in a professional manner."

However, Wilson received a caution in the game against South Korea. This, added to the caution he had received against Taiwan in Fiji, caused him to be suspended by FIFA from the next match, against Kuwait in Kuwait. Adrian Alston was also suspended and Harry Williams couldn't make the trip because he couldn't get time off from his studies after all. Col Curran was called into the squad for the matches against Kuwait at home and South Korea and Hong Kong away when Williams said he would have to take time off from the team due to studies. However, it had been expected that Williams would be back for the trip to Kuwait and Iran.

Knowing Wilson would not be able to play against Kuwait, Shoulder used a warm-up match against Singapore in Singapore to give South Australian David Jones the opportunity to get accustomed to the centre back position. Australia won 2-0 with goals by Ollerton and Abonyi and Jones played well enough to be retained for the game in Kuwait.

Before leaving home, the ASF had to get new passports for 12 of the touring party, as Kuwait had informed the ASF that any player with an Israeli visa stamped in his passport would not be permitted to enter the Gulf state.

Kuwait had suffered a setback two weeks before its game against Australia, by losing 0-1 to Iran in Teheran in front of 100,000 spectators. Adelkhani, who was once on the books of Bayern Munich, was back in the Iran team after injury but brilliant forward Rowshan was left out because of a suspect knee, Ghafoor Johani scored the winning goal.

Before the game in Kuwait, Jimmy Rooney who only a few weeks earlier had been voted Australian Player of the Year, called for the retention of Jim Shoulder as the Socceroos' coach for the 1982 World Cup challenge.

Rooney, who was Australian captain in the absence of suspended Peter Wilson, said: "No matter what happens to our present World Cup campaign, Jimmy Shoulder should stay as coach for the next four years, win or lose. It would be in the best interests of Australian soccer. He is a thorough professional and also a very ethical professional. The players respect him 100 per cent and he's gained our effort as well as our respect. Jimmy is also learning more with every game that comes along and his one and a half year's experience as national coach stands him in very good stead for the next World Cup. Soccer is basically a simple game which players and coaches tend to make difficult and one of Jimmy's strongest points is that he makes the game simple." Rooney added that the players had been at fault in Australia's failures to that stage. "We just didn't play to his instructions," he said.

Coach Jim Shoulder oversees training in Hong Kong. The players are, from left: Attila Abonyi, Peter Stone and Murray Barnes.

As for Shoulder himself, he had expressed his opinions about his job while in Hong Kong. "I knew that if I did not win the World Cup itself the guns would start blazing from all sides," he told Doug Conway of Australiian Associated Press. "I wasn't batting on a plum wicket to start with. I feel sorry for the situation I was in, not for myself. But I came in with my eyes open. I knew what to expect and I still do. I feel as though I am doing my job with a pistol at my head but fortunately I'm a pretty stable character and optimist and I don't let this worry me." Referring to his critics in Australia, he said: "They've got to blame someone. A lot of criticism is valid but there are quite a few who just have an axe to grind. Of course I have made mistakes, but so would have Alf Ramsay or Helmut Schoen in the same situation."

It is now history that Australia finally tumbled out of the World Cup by losing 0-1 to Kuwait. Not only did they lose the match but the Socceroos were also deprived of the services of John Kosmina and George Harris for the final game against Iran in Teheran. Kosmina was sent off the field by Austrian referee Josef Bucek in the 56th minute and was automatically suspended for the next match. Harris was also suspended for receiving his second World Cup caution for a flying rugby tackle on Kuwaiti striker Fahti Kamil, whom he marked throughout the game. Shoulder said Kosmina should not have been sent off. "He was a bit unfortunate to have been booked a few minutes earlier, but all he did was to throw up his hands when a free kick that should have been his way went against him," Shoulder said. "I think to deprive either side of a player for a thing like that in such a crucial game was unjustifiable."

But Shoulder was extremely pleased with the way his team had played.

"Our players coped marvellously well when you consider we had just 10 men for well over half an hour. The fact that the result went against our lads was no indictment of their performance. It was first class," he said.

"It was far, far more creditable than some of the performances we've put on in the past when we've won matches. David Jones in defence played very well in his first World Cup match, Peter Stone never stopped from the kick-off to the final whistle and George Harris was simply colossal. After the match he said to me: 'I'm sorry boss, we let you down,' but they did not let anyone down."

Harris did a great job shadowing Kamil, the "Arabian Pele" and forward Abonyi dropped back to further strengthen the midfield grip of Stone, Byrne and Rooney in a 4-4-2 formation.

Kuwait scored its winning goal six minutes after half time. Bo-Abbas Badr ran down the left, and passed to Faisal Al Dakheel who pushed the ball wide of two Australian players, turned on a sixpence and rocketed a low drive into the net from 15 metres.

Peter Wilson narrowly won back his place in the final match against Iran but Shoulder announced it had been a "hair line decision" to include Wilson at the expense of David Jones. "In the end, what swayed me to go for Wilson was that there will be a full house of about 100,000 at the Aryamehr Stadium, with a tremendous big-match atmosphere," Shoulder said. "Wilson has tons of experience and he has played here before." Adrian Alston moved into attack to replace the suspended John Kosmina. The suspension of George Harris meant Gary Byrne went to right back, Col Currant to left back and Gary Marocchi came in to take Byrne's midfield berth.

Iran knew that if it won this match, it would qualify for Argentian, irrespective of the result of its match against Kuwait in Kuwait. Mohajerani's men threw everything at Australia and finally won 1-0

Afterwards, Shoulder made a grim but accurate prediction. "Each World Cup competition that passes is going to get harder and harder for Australia," he said. "There's no doubt about it. This time the Asia-Oceania region has witnessed the emergence of Kuwait which was a non-condender four years ago. But they have put in so much money, time, planning and development that the game is a religion in their country. You'll find that more and more countries like Kuwait will emerge. The competition is really fierce and in the case of Australia it will get harder as the years go by unless there are some drastic changes.

"We don't have nearly the same sort of pipeline that Iran, Kuwait and South Korea have in terms of under 23 and youth squads. We don't have the international competition that they have either. Soccer is the national sport in those countries. In Teheran there was a full house of 100,000 at the game and the whole of the country watched it on television. But in Australia soccer is a minor game and there's not anywhere near the same fervor for the national team. So the gap between Australia and these other countries will widen. The only way to overcome it is for the Australian Soccer Federation to be prepared to send teams to compete in Asian competitions and for people to realise that Australia does not have a God-given right to be in the World Cup finals."

Asked if he thought he had failed, Shoulder said: "What about the Koreans? They have lost only one game out of seven and that was to us in Sydney. Have they failed?"

Adrian Alston wrote the final chapter of Australia's 1977 World Cup campaign. In a regular column he was writing for "The Australian," Alston said "There is one big question about my return to Australia — was my trip back to Australia to help the Socceroos try to get to Argentina really worth it?

"From my point of view it's always a great honor to play for Australia but I wish I'd spent more time on the field than on the bench during those few months. Out of eight World Cup matches, I played only two full games — against Kuwait and Iran — and I'm a little bitter about this. Obviously the national coach, Jim Shoulder, left me out for a reason — but that's something he's forgotten to tell me about.

"I'm also a bit annoyed about the handling of my suspension before the game in Kuwait. It's a ridiculous situation when a player learns that he is suspended five hours before an important World Cup game — especially when the story of my suspension was headlines in the Sydney Press nine days before!

"Compared with 1974, the whole set-up was entirely different. The lads themselves were great and I enjoyed being with them but Jim Shoulder's methods were entirely different from those of Rale Rasic who coached us in 1973-74.

"Shoulder was not nearly as tough or as strict a disciplinarian as Rasic and this was not good. I think it showed in many of our games, especially with some of the younger players who needed tougher handling.

"As for the future, after visiting Iran and Kuwait, I realise that Australian soccer had better shake itself and get streamlined and organised immediately at national level, otherwise the 1982 World Cup finals will be a dream just as the 1978 ones have turned out to be.

"Under the present set-up, Australia are like amateurs in a professional league."

Palayer appearances in the 1977 World Cup qualifying series: 12. Bennett, Rooney, Ollerton; 11. Kosmina, Wilson; 10. Abonyi, Harris; 9. Byrne; 8. Maher; 7, J. Nyskohus, Williams; 6. Stone, Harding; 5. Curran; 4, Barnes, Clarke; 3. Muniz, Alston, Marocchi; 1. Jones, Sharne.

Goalscorers: 6 Ollerton, Kosmina; 3. Abonyi, Rooney; 1. Barnes, Bennett.

Details of the final Asian qualifying tournament: Hong Kong v Iran 0-2, 0-3; Hong Kong v South Korea 0-1, 2-5; South Korea v Iran 0-0, 2-2; Australia v Hong Kong 3-0, 5-2; Australia v Iran 0-1, 0-1; Australia v South Korea 2-1, 0-0; Hong Kong v Kuwait 1-3, 0-4; South Korea v Kuwait 1-0, 2-2; Australia v Kuwait 1-2, 0-1; Iran v Kuwait 1-0, 2-1.

Final standings:	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Iran	6	2	0	12	3	14
Sth Korea	3	4	1	12	8	10
Kuwait	4	1	3	13	8	9
Australia	3	1	4	11	8	7
Hong Kong	0	0	8	5	26	0

Iran's results in the World Cup finals in Argentina (Group Four):

HOLLAND 3 (Rensenbrink 3) IRAN 0. attendance 42,000.

HOLLAND: Jongbloed; Suurbier, Rijsbergen, Kroi, W. van de Kerkhof. Neeskens, Haan, Jansen, R. van de Kerkhof (Nanninga 71st), Rep, Rensenbrink.

IRAN: Hejazi; Nazari, Abdullahi, Kazerani, Eskandarian, Parvin, Ghassempour, Sadeghi, Nayabagha, Faraki (Rowshan 52nd), Johani.

SCOTLAND 1: (Eskandarian own goal) IRAN 1 (Danaifar), attendance 8000.

Scotland: Rough; Jardine, Donachie, Burns, Buchan (Forsyth 57th), Gemmill, Macari, Hartford, Dalglish (Harper 73rd), Jordan, Robertson.

Iran: Hejazi; Nazari,Abdullahi, Kzerani, Eskandarian, Parvin, Ghassempour, Sadeghi, Danaifar (Nayabagha 90th), Faraki (Rowshan 83rd), Johani.

PURU 4 (Cubillas 3, Velasquez) IRAN 1 (Rowshan), attendance 40,000.

Peru: Quiroga; Duarte, Manzo (Leguia 68th), Chumpitaz, Diaz, Velasquez, Cubillas, Cueto, Munante, La Rosa (Sotil 60th), Oblitas.

Iran: Hejazi, Nazari, Abdullahi, Kazerani, Allahverdi, Parvin,Ghassempour, Sadeghi, Danaifar, Faraki (Johani 52nd), Rowshan (Fariba 66th).

Group Four standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Peru	2	1	0	7	2	5
Holland	1	1	1	5	3	3
Scotland	1	1	1	5	6	3
Iran	0	1	2	2	8	1

Doug Utjesenovic

Legal battle made Utjesenovic bitter

After 61 apperarances with the Socceroos, Doug Utjesenovic announced in February, 1978: "Even if I were 20 and starting my career, I still would not play for Australia."

Utjesenovic was bitter at the time. He was involved in a legal battle with the ASF over compensation for an injury received during the Socceroos' 1976 world tour.

The injury, to his knee, kept him out of the game for eight and a half months. It required an operation and caused him to take time off from work without pay. He felt he was entitled to more help than the ASF gave him.

That was only one of Utjesenovic's problems in 1978. The other concerned Ilya Takac, his coach at St George. Takac and Utjesenovic had a heated row, so Utjesenovic announced his retirement from soccer.

However, he returned when the committee replaced Takac with Joe Vlasits and St George climbed from near last to finish the season in a respectable seventh position.

The football played by Utjesenovic has always been pure class. If anyone doubted that he also had determination, that doubt was removed by his fightback after injury.

Although he has often played sweeper for St George, right back is Utjesenovic's best position. In fact in my opinion, he is the greatest right back Australia has had.

Utjesenovic would have had a distinguished career in the Yugoslav First Division had it not been for a freak injury in 1969. Having played 30 senior games with OFK Belgrade, Utjesenovic slipped from the pitch onto the surrounding concrete cycling track. He was in plaster for a month with knee ligament injury and it was during this lay-off that he accepted an offer from former Footscray J.U.S.T. coach Alex Jagodic to join that Victorian club.

After all, he had friends at J.U.S.T. — Branko Buljevic, Slobodan Zoraja and Milan Mihailovic, who had all played with OFK Belgrade, had gone to Melbourne the previous year.

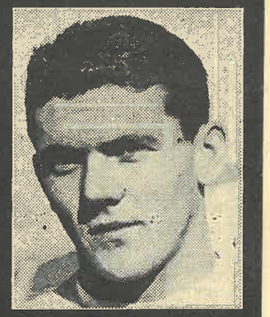
With Rale Rasic as coach, J.U.S.T. won the 1969 Victorian State League championship and Utjesenovic was elevated to the Victorian State team the same year. He switched to St George in 1971, the season that Rasic became the Saints' coach.

After becoming naturalised, Utjesenovic was chosen to represent Australia on the 1972 Asian tour. He played in the 1974 World Cup finals and would have played in the 1977 World Cup qualifying series had it not been for that knee injury suffered against Sunderland in England in 1976.

His association with St George has given Utjesenovic not only an impressive collection of league and Cup medals, but also a wife. He is married to the sister of Saints' full back George Harris, also a Socceroo.

John Watkiss, winning his second NSW Rothmans Medal in 1977.

Cup 'keeper made good in England



John Roberts

John Roberts, Australia's first World Cup goalkeeper, was replaced for the return match after Australia had lost 1-6 to North Korea in the 1965 qualifying match in Cambodia.

He was blamed for some of the goals, but if he was shaky, so were the other 10 Australian players on that tentative first step into World Cup football.

The Cambodia debacle didn't dent Roberts' self-confidence. He left soon afterwards for England where he joined the mighty Chelsea club where Peter Bonetti was goalkeeper No 1.

After two reserve games at Chelsea, Roberts signed for Blackburn and in two years there, had 40 matches — some in First Division and some in the Second after Blackburn was relegated.

Next he was with Chesterfield on loan and then he had three and a half years with Bradford City, which was promoted to the Third Division while he was there.

Burnley was to be his next club but just before the transfer was to be finalised, Roberts suffered a cartilage injury.

After a period in plaster, he made a comeback with Southend in the Third Division and had a further season with Northampton in Division Four before returning to Australia. He still remembers a goal the great Bobby Charlton scored against Blackburn from 30 metres. He played against Tranmere when George Yardley (later Hakoah) was in his prime and against Alex Jeffries who had returned from Sydney to score 40 goals in one season for Doncaster.

Roberts was a product of the Cessnock club and joined APIA in 1964, as reserve to the great Audato Iglesias. Roberts became No 1 choice in 1965, the year APIA won the NSW grand final 2-0 against St George.

WATKISS: AHEAD OF HIS TIME

When the Watkiss family immigrated from England in 1951, they settled in the street where the Warren family lived.

John Watkiss was 10 years old then, John Warren was eight. Both were to become soccer giants!

Unfortunately, the influence of Watkiss at national team level was restricted, for when he was at his peak the national team was virtually non-existent or he was out due to injuries.

Warren, who became national team captain, once named Watkiss as the best Australian player of the past 20 years because he was the "complete footballer, possibly 20 years ahead of his time."

"The Horse" as he is affectionately called, made his First Division debut with the then famous Canterbury team as a winger in 1957. His most recent soccer success was leading Sutherland — of which he is player-coach — to victory over Sydney Croatia in the 1978 NSW grand final. In between he won the 1971 and 1977 Rothmans Medals as NSW's best and fairest player, and played in the 1965, 1969 and 1973 World Cup qualifying games.

Versatility has been one of his greatest assets. He has played in every position except goalkeeper. After a superb display in Australi's 0-2 loss to Iran in Teheran in 1973, he was most unfortunate not to get a game in the World Cup finals in West Germany. Manfred Schaefer took his place. Oh, how we all wished that both of them could have been accommodated. Watkiss did, however, get a trip to Germany as part of the squad — and so it should have been. This player deserved no less.

Although he has played centre back for many years now, Watkiss is a former forward and has scored about 250 goals in club soccer. He scored even in his first senior match — for Canterbury against Gladesville. At 17 he was in the Canterbury team that won virtually everything there was to be won and in the early sixties he went to England where he spent five months with Wolverhampton Wanderers. However, as Australia was banned from FIFA at the time, he could not play in competitive matches in England. He therefore returned to finish the season with Canterbury.

Watkiss transferred to APIA-Leichhardt in 1964 and had probably his most memorable club match in the grand final against St. George, scoring five goals in APIA's 7-2 win.

"Horse" played his first game in the green and gold against Chelsea at the Sydney Showgrounds in 1965. He and Roy Blitz scored the goals in the Socceroos' 2-2 draw, while Chelsea's came from Osgood and Upton. In the return game, at Olympic Park in Melbourne, Watkiss scored again and Australia drew 1-1. Few players have had as auspicious a debut in the national team.

He played in both World Cup qualifying games aganist North Korea in 1965, and in the six other matches of that tour. he lined up against AS Roma (1-1) in 1966 and played in all three games against Scotland in 1967 but was unable to go on the 1967 Asian tour.

Many people wrote him off as being finished after he was injured in APIA's Australia Cup final against Melbourne in 1968, yet Hakoah-Easts nevertheless forked out an $8000 transfer fee for him. "I was the most expensive cripple in Australian football," he recalls.

Watkiss was back in Australian colors in 1969 — first in the three-match series against Greece and then in the World Cup qualifying campaign. He played midfield in that campaign and scored two goals — the second in Australia's 1-1 draw with Israel in the last qualifying match. Unfortunately, Australia needed to win that game, and so it was Israel instead that qualified for the finals in Mexico.

At Hakoah, Watkiss had his best season in 1971, when he teamed up with Ray Baartz in midfield. Hakoah was unbeaten that year, the only NSW First Division side which can boast of that achievement. Business commitments prevented Watkiss from joining the Socceroos on their 1970 world tour or their 1972 tour of Asia and so it was a personal triumph for him that he was recalled for the latter stages of the 1973 World Cup qualifying series.

Watkiss, who transferred to Sutherland in 1975 because it is closer to his home at Gymea, lists among his achievements: about 570 first grade games, five Ampol Cup wins, 10 first grade grand finals, four Australia Cup finals (two wins and two losses) and seven premierships.

Roos abroad: injuries and violence but mostly glory

Much of the legend surrounding the Socceroos was woven far away in war torn Vietnam and Israel, indifferent England, hostile Iran and flabbergasted Greece.

It is no coincidence that Australia is seen at its best overseas more often than at home. Travelling and living together with a common aim and ample time for training invariably brings results on tour.

The contrast is enormous at home, where the reluctance of clubs to release their players has often resulted in the Socceroos coming together a mere 48 hours before a big match.

Since Federation, Australia has undertaken two world tours in 1970 and 1976, and three Asian tours, in 1965, 1967 and 1972. The 1965 tour was an extension of the Socceroos' visit to Kampuchea, venue for the two World Cup games against North Korea. Similarly, a tour through Indonesia, Israel and Switzerland preceded Australia's arrival in West Germany for the 1974 World Cup finals.

Many players began their international careers on tour, players as great as Peter Wilson, Branko Buljevic, Jimmy Mackay, Billy Vojtek, Ray Richards, Johnny Warren, Col Curran, Jack Reilly, Doug Utjesenovic and Harry Williams.

Those who went to Vietnam, especially in 1967, remember the terror of war. Vietnam was also the scene of the wildest demonstration against an Australian team, in 1972.

There have been serious injuries on tour — like those to Doug Utjesenovic and Richie Bell in 1976. There also have been breaches of discipline or personality clashes which resulted in star players like Billy Vojtek, John Doyle, Dave Keddie, Tommy McColl and Willie Rutherford getting into hot water.

There have even been brushes with the law — like the Israeli authorities' brief detention in 1974 of Ray Richards who was mistaken for an Arab terrorist. A couple of players tempted the long arm of the law on an earlier tour — but we won't go into that.

Generally, touring Socceroos have behaved impeccably and are remembered as true sportsmen by their hosts around the world.

Australia played the friendly matches of its 1965 tour after instead of before its two World Cup games against North Korea in Phnom Penh. Had they been used as a warm-up for the Phnom-Penh campaign, Australia may have fared a lot better than losing to North Korea 1-6 and 1-3.

Against Kampuchea (Cambodia) in the first "friendly" international after the two World Cup games, coach Tiko Jelisavcic gave three players their first international game — Johnny Warren at left half, Hammy McMeechan at inside right and Queensland youngster Ian Johnston at centre forward. Warren went on to become national captain, superstar of St George, coach of Canberra City, and public relations consultant to Sydney City. McMeechan played for West Adelaide, Croatia-Melbourne, Juventus, Slavia and Western Suburbs (NSW) and Johnston is still in the Philips League squad of Brisbane City.

Australia played much better than Kampuchea but failed to get past the resolute defence, even after Johnny Anderson, Archie Blue and Geoff Sleight had come on as substitutes. About 20,000 spectators gave vocal support to the Kampuchean team and this undoubtedly saved it from defeat. The match ended scoreless.

The home side, coached by Vladimir Mirka, was:

Lim Sak; Tol Kim Chi, Y Leang; Yang Tramon, Va Sum (Huy Chamrong), Van Roeun (Pen Phat); Doeur Sokhom, Hun Savuth, Duong Duc, Neou Kandien (Chaet Bong), Kaem San.

Australia then played three matches in Hong Kong as part of an international tournament, but started badly, losing 0-1 to the Hong Kong national team. Australia had most of the play and had 38 attempts at goal to Hong Kong's five. Yet Hong Kong scored the only goal in a breakaway after 22 minutes, through McLaren, one of two Englishmen in the team.

Yet nothing, not even defeat, could diminish the glory of Australian wingers Jim Pearson and Dave Todd. It was unfortunate that the inside men could not capitalise on the chances created.

Hong Kong's team was:

Mui Wing Tat; Lok Tak Hing, Lai Po Chung; Lee Ping Chung, Kung Wah Kit, Leung Kam Yung, Lee Kwo Keung, Wallis, McLaren, Ho Cheung Yau, Chan Shek Cheung.

It was a harsh penalty near the end of the game that cost Australia at least a draw with AIK of Stockholm in the next match of the Hong Kong international tournament. Up to that point, the Socceroos had matched their European opponents.

AIK's 2-1 win gave it first place in the tournament as it had earlier beaten Hong Kong 5-2. Australia hit the woodwork three times and had to wait for the next match to get a smile from Lady Luck. Johnny Anderson scored Australia's goal against AIK whose line-up was:

Hult, Soderberg, Stenborg, Antert, Westerberg, Petterson, Holmberg, Grip, Ohlsson, Carlsson, Bengtsson.

The Socceroos experienced violence for the first time after having beaten Nationalist China 3-1 in front of 14,000 people at Hong Kong's Government Stadium on December 3. Hundreds of spectators were involved in a fierce riot, smashing windows in the stadium, overturning cars and motorbikes. It took riot squad police 45 minutes to restore peace, while the Australians were driven back to their hotel under police escort. It was anger at Australian stopper Billy Cook that contributed to the rioting. Cook, at his nerves' end, had apparently given a Chinese player a taste of his own foul medicine, which incensed the fans.

Nationalist China, which had been joint winner of the 1965 Merdeka Tournament in Kuala Lumpur, had been expected to beat Australia easily and so the partisan supporters were not prepared for what transpired. Australia was two goals up after only seven minutes due to the opportunism of Archie Blue, the star forward from Footscray J.U.S.T. China's only goal came from a penalty coverted by Cheung Chi Wai but Blue replied by completing his hat-trick. Nigel Shepherd, Stan Ackerley and Billy Cook preserved the 3-1 lead with fine defensive play against the tricky, ball-playing Chinese forwards.

Nationalist China's line-up was: Cheung Kin Che (Kwok Tak Sin); Law Pak, Kwok Kam Hung, Chan Fair Hung, Tsek Wok Keung, Wong Man Wai, Wong Chi Keung, Cheung Chi Doy, Cheung Chi Wai, Yiu Cheuk Yin, Mok Chun Wah.

Last stop for the Socceroos was Ipoh where they won both their matches against Malaysia, 1-0 and 3-0, on a rain-soaked pitch at the Perak stadium.

Australia's forward line — with the exception of Jim Pearson, who scored the winning goal — once again missed many chances, so it was the defence and midfield that contributed most to the first victory. Pat Hughes, Billy Cook and John Watkiss were particularly prominent.

Malaysia tried blanket defence in the hastily-arranged return match but this time the Australian forward line came good. Dave Todd scored in the 54th minute, substitute Ian Johnston in the 65th and Les Scheinflug converted a penalty, six minutes before the end.

Malaysia's West German coach, Otto Westpfal, who made three changes during the game to no avail, said afterwards Australia was the best team to have visited the country. Unfortunately, due to the rain, only 300 people were there to appreciate Australia's classy display.

Malaysia's line-ups:

First game: Teh Cheung Lee, Yee Seng Choi (Abdullah Noordin), Foo Fook Chaun, Soo Toh Kim Poh, Chandran (Hoo Woon Hung), Ibrahim Mydin, Balan, Richard Choe, Latiff Ibrahim, Thanabalan, Mazlan Hamid.

Second game: Teh Cheung Lee, Soo Toh Kim Poh, Foo Fook Chaun, Abdullah Noordin, Richard Choe, Agus Salim (Yee Seng Choi), Teoh Peng Cool, Mazlan Hamid (Ho Woon Hung), Ibrahim Mydin, Thanabalan (Tanagor), Latiff Ibrahim.

Australian players' appearances on tour (including the two World Cup games); 8 Shepherd, Watkiss; 7. Hughes; 6. Rorke, Ackerley, Cook, Blue, Anderson, Pearson, Todd; 5. Blitz; 4. Scheinflug, Warren, McMeechan; 3. Rice, Johnston; 2. Roberts, Herczeg, Giles, Sleight.

CUP VICTORY IN SAIGON

Soon after the Australians got off the plane on their 1967 visit to Saigon, they were given a briefing by American security men. They told the Socceroos to keep away from Americans because they were Viet Cong targets. The tourists were also told not to kick bricks or stones lying on the footpath in case they were bombs.

Billy Vojtek remembers: "From our hotel, which was constantly guarded by about 60 South Vietnamese and which someone tried unsuccessfully to blow up while we were there, we could hear machine gun fire all night. We were numb with fright for the first week or so, but we later learned to live with it.

"When our bus drove through certain sections of Saigon we were ordered to close our windows in case someone threw a bomb. At the playing field soldiers combed the area with mine detectors and searched people coming through the turnstiles. The pitch itself was isolated from the crowd by a seven-foot fence. Each one of us was insured for $17,000. Luckily no-one collected".

Journalist Terry Smith covered the Socceroos tour. He wrote soon after his return:

THE silver cup was gleaming in the lights of the Cong Hoa Stadium in Saigon like a white ball of fire as Australian coach Joe Vlasits held it high in the air. This was the magical moment of soccer glory that I had been waiting for . . . a moment when Australia had at last become a proud force by winning a prestige international event. A number of the Australian players were crying as Vlasits was pushed forward to receive the cup presented to the winner of Vietnam's National Day tournament. They had fought back from the shock of conceding a goal in the 51st second of play to surge to a 3-1 lead before finally triumphing over South Korea in the final. For a moment, everybody in the Australian touring party forgot they were only 20 miles away from where a war was being fought. They forgot the hundreds of soldiers carrying guns who flocked around the Stadium and did not hear the explosion of mortar shells in the background. "Uc-Dai-Loi (Australia), No. 1," shouted the 35,000 spectators as the Australian players ran a lap of honor around a field which was little more than ankle-deep slush. The actual side that night was Corry, Keith, Ackerly, Schaefer, van Alphen, Westwater, McColl, Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, Vojtek. The only pity was that Australia could not see how skilfully this team was able to play. Our players had to contend with a ball made as slippery as a piece of soap by a playing surface which was little more than a bog. The Australian players quickly developed into a fit, adventurous, fast and well-organised team, brilliantly inspired and indoctrinated. A coach who can instill this kind of spirit into a team, who can bring them to such a level of fitness and endow them with so concrete a defence, so presistent an attack, deserves the highest possible credit. This credit one gives most happily to Joe Vlasits. He used the spartan conditions under which the touring party existed to develop a team spirit which paved the way for Australia to win 10 matches in a row on the tour. You could not escape the desperate poverty of the place

The Socceroos with their medals after having won the Vietnam tournament in 1967, standing from left: Attila Abonyi, Ray Richards, Manfred Schaefer, Dr. Brian Corrigan, Roger Romanowicz, Gary Wilkins, Frank Micic (rear), Ray Baartz (crouching), Stan Ackerley (peeking through), Ron Corry, John Watkiss, Billy Vojtek (leaning forward), Ray Lloyd, Terry Smith (reporter), George Keith, Jim Connell (manager),Martin Royal (ABC reporter). Front: Tommy McColl, Johnny Warren, Lou Lazzari (masseur), Joe Vlasits (coach), Alan Westwater, Ted De Lyster, Tony Boskovic (referee).

He came from Manchester Utd.

Stan Ackerley

Stan Ackerley, Australia's captain for the 1967 Asian tour and the 1969 World Cup mission, was on the books of Manchester United in his youth.

However, when opportunities did not come his way in senior soccer, he decided to give Australia a try, and so he joined Victorian club Slavia in the early sixties.

His cousin, Ernie Ackerley, who had also been with Manchester United, came to Australia as well, and joined South Melbourne Hellas.

Stan played in the 1963 Slavia team that won the Australia Cup by beating Polonia (Vic.) 3-2 in front of 10,000 people at Olympic Park. Also in the Slavia team were Billy Cook, Nigel Sherherd, and Hammy McMeechan, who, like Stan Ackerley, were later to play for Australia.

Ackerley built up an awesome reputation as a hard-tackling but also tactically adept defender. Having represented Victoria, he was snapped up in 1964 by APIA where he ended his playing career. He later coached NSW amateur club Toongabbie.

Billy Vojtek: so close but so far

Billy Vojtek suffered the biggest disappointment of his career when coach Rale Rasic left him out of the Australian squad that went to the World Cup finals in West Germany in 1974.

Vojtek, who was a substitute in the qualifying match against Iran in Sydney, was left at home when Australia met South Korea in Seoul and Hong Kong later in the year.

"However, Rasic told me at that time that I should not worry because I would definitely be in the World Cup squad," Vojtek said. Vojtek added he was "awfully disappointed" when the final World Cup squad was announced. "I had nightmares for days, no kidding," he said. "You dream about it all your life. I was so close, yet so far away."

Vojtek, who has always lived in Melbourne, even joined Sydney Croatia to improve his chances of going to Germany.

However, Vojtek had had a number of well-publicised arguments with Rasic. These obviously contributed to his omission from the World Cup squad. Their most famous dust-up was during the 1970 world tour during which John Doyle and Dave Keddie also got into Rasic's bad books.

Vojtek, who took his first coaching job in early 1979 with Victorian State League club Green Gully Ajax, was born in Yugoslavia and started playing soccer in Melbourne with the Essendon juniors. He scored between 50 and 60 goals every season and represented Victoria in the under 13s, 15s, 16s and 18s. He joined State League club Croatia at the age of 17.

As a youngster he admired Vic Janczyk and Eddy Jankowski of Polonia, and J.U.S.T. midfielder Vero Mladenovic. He watched them all the time, and copied things they did.

In 1965 Janczyk, who was then the Victorian State coach, chose Vojtek in the squad to meet touring Chelsea, but he didn't actually play for Victoria until the next year, against AS Roma of Italy. He was an inexperienced, nervous kid in that team, but his performance was good enough to keep him in the Victorian side for many years to come. He had 48 state games altogether.

National coach Joe Vlasis included Vojtek in the Australian squad that remained unbeaten on its 10-match tour of Asia in 1967. He scored eight goals on that tour.

Vojtek played in all but one of Australia's 31 full international matches from 1967 to 1971. The one he missed was against Mexico on the 1970 world tour. He notched up his 31st cap when he came on as a substitute against Iran in Sydney in 1973.

Billy Vojtek shows off his ball-juggling skill.

For many years Vojtek and Jimmy Mackay were the backbone of Croatia, which won the Victorian championship in 1968. When Coatia was expelled from the Victorian Soccer Federation in 1972, Vojtek joined South Sydney Croatia and Mackay went to Hakoah-Easts. After a year of travelling back and forth from Melbourne, where he continued to live, Vojtek joined Juventus (Vic) where he won the 1975 Bill Fleming Medal as the Victorian Player of the Year. He switched to Essendon Croatia in 1977, and to Ajax in 1979.

Speed and ball skill were Vojtek's greatest assets. He had many memorable games for Australia — the best of them against Israel in Brisbane in 1971, against Israel in Tel Aviv in 1970, Indonesia in Djakarta in 1967 and, the most memorable of all, against South Korea in the final of the 1967 Vietnam tournament.

wherever you went in the corrupt, decrepit city of Saigon. Every night a security guard with a machine gun patrolled the corridors of the white-washed Golden Building hotel where the Australian players were staying in conditions which can only be described as primitive. The players had to sleep three to a room, and Stan Ackerley was thrown across the room with an electric shock when he first tried to turn on the light. It was only through the co-operation of the Australian army that the players managed to get a decent meal. Australia's feat in completing the tour with an unbeaten record was a classical team effort, and it would be unfair to pick out a star. Australian captain John Warren's courageous play and sense of humour quickly won him the complete loyalty of the other players. No-one who saw it will ever forget the way in which Warren scored the solitary goal that enabled Australia to score a 1-0 win over Vietnam. He drove himself to the brink of exhaustion and was walking around in a daze on the following day until he was given a whisky and put to bed. The other player who filled a linking mid-field role and who returned to Australia with a new maturity was Allan Westwater. Attila Abonyi completed the tour with a bag of 13 goals and the reputation of being a beautifully fluent player who was a most penetrative striker. He has a powerful shot in either foot, in spite of his slight build, and is going to be a key player in Australia's bid to qualify for the final 16 of the World Cup in 1970. So is the other inside-forward, Ray Baartz. He has a ferocious shot with his left foot, which was never seen to better effect than when he scored the goal in extra time which enabled Australia to beat Malaysia 1-0 in a semi-final of the Vietnam tournament. Baartz threw himself heart and soul into every game and has developed a remarkable maturity for a young man who has just turned 21. Undoubtedly, the most exciting individual display of the tour was that of Billy Vojtek, on the left-wing, in the final against South Korea. He turned his rival full-back almost inside-out with his acceleration and splendid dribbling, as well as scoring Australia's opening goal. The iron man of the tour was the left-back, Stan Ackerley, who was the only player to take part in all 10 matches, and forced a number of his lighter Asian rivals to take cover with his vigour in the tackle. But it would be wrong to regard this happy-go-lucky defender as just a hatchet man, because he reads a game well and his use of the ball can be marvellously cool and adroit. Manfred Schaefer developed as a key player in Australia's superbly co-ordinated defence, and Dick van Alphen played with superb aplomb at centre-half. Another player who returned home with a new stature was Tom McColl, who showed a flair for the big occasion on Australia's right-wing. It was a thrilling experience to share the triumph of this long-awaited breakthrough by an Australian soccer team.

South Australian senior board member Jim Connell, who was appointed co-manager for the tour to the chagrin of hopeful candidates in other states, wrote shortly after the tour:

Most of us have our moments to remember. My great moment was on that hot, steamy Tuesday night of November 14, at the Cong Hoa Stadium in Saigon, when captain Johnny Warren and coach "Uncle" Joe Vlasits went together to receive the Cup—Australia were the champions! This moment was the climax of the tour. In the short space of 10 days, we had won five games convincingly, under conditions which favored all our opponents except New Zealand. We had gone to Saigon as an unknown quantity, but by superior fitness, skill and tactics we had emerged as a leading soccer nation in S.E. Asia. Games which followed in Djakarta, Singapore and Kuala Lumpur merely served to emphasise the fact. That we were the fittest team in Asia was a great tribute to coach Joe Vlasits, Dr Brian Corrigan, masseur Lou Lazzari, and, of course, the squad of 18 players. We had to eat strange and (to us) often unpalatable foods, the days were hot and humid — very tiring, the pitch was like a paddy field after rain, and yet we never suffered from cramp, pulled muscles or "tummy" troubles: a remarkable achievement. The tour did not just start being a success when we beat New Zealand 5—3 in our opening game. The foundations for success were laid long before by the National Team Sub-Committee of Ian Brusasco, Tom Grimson, John Barclay (my co-director and a great worker for Australia on tour), and secretary Ian McAndrew. Their biggest contribution was to appoint, from the Coaches Federation, an advisory selection panel—that is, selection by coaches whose business is to know soccer. The selection net was widely cast, resulting in increased representation from South Australia and a young, keen, talented squad of players. Tommy McColl, Roger Romanowicz and Ted DeLyster acquitted themselves so well that South Australian players' stocks now stand high; our representatives are certain to come under close scrutiny in future. For the first time in Australian soccer history, Australians not associated with soccer were proud to say 'We won!' Let's keep is that way.

Melbourne's Lord Mayor, Cr Talbot, gave a reception for the five Victorian members of the 1967 touring Socceroos. He is pictured welcoming Frank Micic.

Details of the National Day Tournament in Saigon:

GROUP A RESULTS: South Vietnam v Singapore 2-0, Australia v New Zealand 5-3, Australia v South Vietnam 1-0, New Zealand v Singapore 3-1, South Vietnam v New Zealand 5-1, Australia v Singapore 5-1.

Standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Australia	3	0	0	11	4	6
Sth Vietnam	2	0	1	7	2	4
N. Zealand	1	0	2	7	11	2
Singapore	0	0	3	2	10	0

GROUP B RESULTS: Malaysia v Thailand 3-2, South Korea v Hong Kong 1-0, South Korea v Thailand 3-1, Malaysia v Hong Kong 2-0, Thailand v Hong Kong 5-1, South Korea v Malaysia 2-1.

Standings:

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Sth Korea	3	0	0	6	2	6
Malaysia	2	0	1	6	4	4
Thailand	1	0	2	8	7	2
Hong Kong	0	0	3	1	8	0

Semi-finals: Australia v Malaysia 1-0, South Korea v South Vietnam 3-0.

Alston: for $20,000 to Luton

Adrian Alston and John Kosmina are the only two players bought by English clubs from clubs in Australia.

Arsenal "bought" Kosmina in early 1978 by giving him the money to buy his own transfer for a reported $20,000.

Luton Town bought Alston for $20,000 from Wollongong club Safeway United in a straight transfer deal in late 1974.

Ironically, Alston had come to Australia in 1978 because his English club, Preston North End, had expressed no great enthusiasm for his talent.

And so he holds a unique position in soccer history . . . an Englishman who had to make his mark in Australia before he got his chance in England.

Alston topped the NSW First Divison goalscorers' list while with Safeway United before switching to St. George where he teamed up in attack with another prolific scorer, Mike Denton. Both of them were to be included in the Australian squad that toured the world in late 1970, before Alston returned to Safeway in 1973.

Alston quickly attracted the nick-name "Noddy" for his uncanny heading ability. This was only part of his armoury however, as he also had great skill on the ground.

His first international match was Australia's 1-0 victory over Greece in Sydney in 1969 — only a year after he had arrived from England. He was included later that year in Australia's World Cup squad and played in two of the qualifying matches — both against Rhodesia (1-1 and 3-1).

But Alston's greatest "international" triumph was in the guernsey of St. George, not Australia. He was the best player and top scorer of the Saints' triumphant overseas tour of 1971. During this tour, they won an international competition against Japan A, Japan B and Frem of Denmark. St. George also beat Macoa, Toyo Kogyo and Hitachi in non-tournament matches.

Under national coach Rale Rasic, Alston played as striker in all internationals except a 1971 three-match series against Israel, in which he was tried at left back with little success. With four goals, Alston was top scorer in Australia's World Cup qualifying series of 1973.

It was during the World Cup finals in West Germany that Alston caught the eye of English club officials. German clubs also showed interest in Alston, and his fellow striker Branko Buljevic. Both were reported to have received Bundesliga offers and Hamburger SV, Eintracht Frankfurt and Hertha BSC were among the clubs mentioned.

Australia's opening match against East Germany was the one that created most of the interest. Alston was best man afield in that match, with Buljevic not far behind him, playing their lonely partnershipp with such brilliance in Australia's 4-4-2 formation.

It was Luton Town that won the race for Alston's signature, while Buljevic stayed put in Melbourne. Luton flew Alston to England and in his first match, on August 31, 1974, he helped his new club to a 1-1 draw with Queens Park Rangers. The crowd of 18,000 gave him an enthusiastic reception. Alston said afterwards: "I enjoyed this afternoon's game immensely, even though it was very much faster than the soccer I was playing in Australia".

"Noddy" improved rapidly with Luton and played some memorable matches, some of which were seen in Australia on television. However, when Luton suffered financial hardships in 1975, the club sold him to Cardiff City for $48,000 — a profit of $28,000. Luton manager Harry Haslam said: "I wouldn't have been willing to let him go but the money situation is tight. There is a lot of talk about freedom of contract for soccer players and bank managers are now clamping down on loans for buying players". The Alston deal was in cash.

Adrian Alston (right) in action against Mantoan of Neuchatel Xmax in Switzerland in 1974.

Alston's next stop was the lucrative North American Soccer League. It was not reported how much he received when he joined the Tampa Bay Rowdies, but the fee was quite substantial.

Mid-way throught the inaugural Philips League season (1977) Alston was brought to Australia to play on loan with Canberra City, then coached by his former Socceroo teammate Johnny Warren. He scored three goals in 10 PSL matches and one goal in two Philips Cup games before returning to the U.S.

Late in 1978 Warren returned from a visit to the U.S. with the bad news that Alston's playing career had been ended by serious cruciate ligament damage. Tampa Bay had collected $60,000 insurance over the injury and Alston, then almost 30, was about to return to England where he was to open a pub and undertake courses to equip him as a coach.

During his brief return to Australia to play for Canberra, Alston was also included in the national squad for its World Cup qualifying games against Kuwait (1-2), South Korea (0-0), and Iran (0-1). He looked past his prime in all those matches but his eagerness to play for Australia indicated a great fondness for this, his adopted country. Who knows, he may return as a coach. He told Johnny Warren that he was still interested in settling permanently in Australia.

Third place play-off: South Vietnam 4 Malaysia 1.
Final: Australia 3 South Korea 2.
Other tour results: v. Indonesa 2-0 & 3-1; v. Singapore 6-1; v. Combined Services (Singapore) 8-1; v. Malaysia 4-0.

Appearances on tour: 10. Ackerley, Schaefer, Westwater, Vojtek; 9. Abonyi, Warren; 8. Keith, van Alphen, McColl, Baartz; 6. Corry; 5. Micic, Richards; 4. Romanowicz, Wilkins, DeLyster; 3. Lloyd. Scorers: 13. Abonyi; 8. Vojtek; 4. Baartz; 3. Warren, McColl, Westwater; 1. Micic, Schaefer, Richards.

ANOTHER TRIUMPH IN VIETNAM

Australia returned to Saigon in April, 1970, to win the Friendship Cup tournament against Vietnam and against the Kowloon Bus Company of Hong Kong.

Early plans were that the tournament should include Burma, and Hong Kong but both withdrew. The trip itself was in doubt until the last minute, as the ASF held out for more financial aid from the federal government.

Finally Canberra agreed to increase its assistance grant from $1000 to $3500, seeing that the Socceroos' visit would be a useful diplomatic exercise. Urgent telegrams were then required to establish whether Vietnam still wanted Australia to compete.

Coach Joe Vlasits and manager John Barclay used the trip to blood new players, among them Jack Reilly; Peter Wilson and Jimmy Mackay who were to become the backbone of the national team that went to Germany for the 1974 World Cup finals. Other players included for the first time were: Jim Armstrong, Sandy Irvine (Vic); Dennis Yaager, Danny McKinnon, Gary Quested (NSW).

The shortage of experience in the squad, which was compounded by an ankle injury to right back George Keith, made little difference to the Australians, who strolled through, the first match, crushing Kowloon 6-2. Adrian Alston notched a hat-trick, McKinnon got two and Armstrong one. Reilly, Yaager, Wilson (then 22), Mackay, Quested, McKinnon and Armstrong made their Australian debut in this match.

Before this game, Kowloon and South Vietnam had drawn 1-1 in the opening game of the tournament. Vietnam had been superior but spoiled its chance of victory by missing a penalty in the first half. Luckily for the home side, it was awarded another penalty in the second half, and this time the taker made no mistake to equalise. The match was refereed by Tony Boskovic of Sydney.

Australia won the tournament by beating South Vietnam 1-0 in front of 35,000 fans. The only goal came from Alston in the 42nd minute.

Vietnam had chances to score in two breakaway attacks but goalkeeper Ron Corry stopped the first and the second attempt went over the bar. Corry, Johnny Warren and Manfred Schaefer provided the leadership and steadying influence that enabled the Socceroos to hold onto their lead.

Appearances: 2. Corry, Yaager, Schaefer, Wilson, Perin, Mackay, McKinnon, Quested, Warren, Alston, Vojtek; 1. Reilly, Manuel, Armstrong, Irvine.

. . . AND NOW THE WORLD

Having proved themselves the best in the Asian region, the Socceroos were now ready to take on the world. By the end of their extensive 1970 tour the world was starting to realise that soccer was played also in far-away Australia.

The 1970 Socceroos were the first to visit Europe and the Americas. For that alone, they have a place in the history books. It is also important to point out that they achieved their commendable results despite the absence of established stars Attila Abonyi, Alan Marnoch, Ray Baartz and John Watkiss, who were unable to spare the time away from work.

New coach Rale Rasic, who had taken over from Joe Vlasits, faced the difficult task of having to mould a new midfield, a new striking force and a new defence. Manfred Schaefer was the only experienced defender, Johnny Warren the only proven midfielder and Billy Vojtek the only long-serving forward, although Adrian Alston had proved himself earlier in the year in Vietnam.

By the end of the tour, the Warren-Mackay-Richards combination had emerged as the best midfield and the strongest defence comprised Roche, Wilson, Schaefer and Curran. Denton, Alston and Vojtek proved themselves the best forwards but for various reasons, Denton and Vojtek were later to be omitted.

Before the tour, Rasic said: "My pressing need is to find a boss-type sweeper to replace Alan Marnoch. The man for the job must be good in the air and must be able to rule the defensive roost". Rasic chose Wollongong coal miner Peter Wilson for the job and Wilson was to be judged the best player of the tour. He went on to be capped more often than any other Australian player.

Australia's first two matches — against New Caledonia in Noumea — were televised and shown the following day. They were played at the Stade de Magenta, built for the 1966 South Pacific Games. The Socceroos won the first game 3-1 despite a rest of only three hours between arriving at their hotel and kick-off time and despite an injury that necessitated Alston's replacement in the 10th minute. New Caledonia's left winger Antoine Poithily opened the scoring in the fifth minute but Australia showed fierce fighting qualities to come back with goals by Warren (15th min.), Richards (60th) and Vojtek (70th). Warren had one of his most inspiring games and Mackay emerged as a new star but was injured late in the game and missed the return two days later. Jack Reilly played so well that he was described as Australia's best goalkeeper since Ron Lord.

Billy Vojtek, who finished off a move via Reilly, Mackay and Denton to score the best goal of the game, was again dazzling in the second game but the woodwork twice deprived him of a goal. It was left to John Doyle to score the winner after replacing John Perin at half time. Peter Wilson, starting to fit in as the new defensive boss, was Australia's top man in the second match, closely followed by Mike Denton who showed a lion-hearted capacity for work and perservered in even the most hopeless situations.

Marconi full back John Roche was at the centre of a sensational incident. He was hit on the neck by a karate chop from New Caledonian skipper Gerard Delmas who was consequently sent off. However, the referee reversed his decision after New Caledonia's coach Guy Elmour had argued with him.

New Caledonia's line-ups in the two games:

First game: Clarque, Kecine, Bearune, Mendin, Quaremoin, Delmas, Tikoure (Hoko), Kopal, Bolo, Utine, Poithily.

Second game: Curera; Kecine, Bearune, Mendin, Ouaremoin (Pothin), Delmas, Tikoure, Kopal, Bolo, Utine, Poithily.

From Noumea, the Socceroos flew to Hong Kong to do battle with leading club team Jardine, part of a vast sporting complex run by the Jardine and Matheson shipping line. Publicity build-up to the game was enthusiastic and the 17,000 crowd was the biggest for an international match involving a Hong Kong club side. Jardine had four Nationalist Chinese, three Hong Kong and one Malaysian internationals in its line-up, yet still Australia won 3-0, relishing the flat, green turf. Once again, Vojtek showed all his brilliant skill, scoring two goals and sending the fans to their feet in expectation every time he set off on one of his intricate runs past two, three, four, even five defenders. What's more, Vojtek also dropped back to help his defence whenever he was needed. Roche also put on a memorable display of overlapping from right back before he was replaced by Harry Williams, making his debut for Australia. Mike Denton scored again and also created many openings for team mates, Peter Wilson confirmed that he was now a permanent fixture in the team, and Manfred Schaefer demoralised the Jardine forwards with his robust but perfectly fair play.

Jardine's line-up: Chow Chee Keung; Wong Chun Lit, Lok Tak Fair, Kung Wah Kit, Cheung Yun Yue, Ip Fuk Kwong, Chan Hung Ping, Cheng Kwok Kun, Cheng Chi Doy, Cheung Yiu Kwok, Lo Hung Hoi.

Australia's next match, against Macao, was no more than a workout. Two goals by Denton and one by Warren gave the Socceroos a 3-0 lead after only 15 minutes against the local amateurs. Coach Rasic promised the players an extended curfew if they scored at least nine and Dave Keddie earned the thanks of his team mates by netting the ninth 20 seconds from the end. The players were thus allowed to stay out until 2 am, visiting local casinos or night clubs.

Now the tour started in earnest, with three matches in Teheran. The first was against Oghab (Eagles), an Air Force club. Australia was behind the eight ball from the start, with Warren, Denton, Schaefer and Mackay having to play in borrowed gear as their luggage was still en route. Fielding five internationals on the dustbowl pitch, Oghab attacked furiously for the whole first half but after the break, Australia came out of its shell and should have won 2-0 instead of drawing 0-0. Wilson was by far the best player afield and Roche, Schaefer, Warren and Richards also performed well.

The Oghab line-up was:

Malechi, Mirhadi, Solkonan, Rahimi, Arab, Nayerlou, Aminikhah, Ismaili, Guderzi, Vafakha, Efterkhari (Jerhangiri).

The second match in Iran remains a mystery to this day. The ASF has it entered in the record books as a full international with Iran. However, the Iranian authorities apparently claim that the team Australia played was the club side, Persepolis. In any case, Australia won 2-1, with goals by Adrian Alston and Ray Richards, while little Ali Parvin, who was later to play against Australia in the World Cup, scored the Iranian's goal from a penalty.

Denton scored twice and Doyle once in the 3-3 draw with the Socceroos' third Teheran opponent. This team was apparently from the Pas club, but it was given billing as a Teheran X1. Its scorers were Yavari 2 (including penalty) and Mirzhassan.

If the status of the so-called "international match" in Teheran was open to question, there was no such doubt about the big game in Tel Aviv a few days later. Israel fielded its full national team, including many of the players who had the previous year thwarted Australia's attempt to reach the World Cup finals. The Israeli team was:

Visoker; Bar, Karako, Schum, Rosen (Rachminowitz), Rosenthal, Spiegel, Ben Jakov (Wallach), Feigenbaum, Spiegler, Szabo (Zelzer).

Vojtek, playing his first match in midfield instead of attack, was one of Australia's stars, while substitute Ray Richards scored the goal in the Socceroos' 1-0 victory.

A second match in Israel — against Hapoel in Haifa — presented Rasic with the opportunity to give his "reserve" players a run, and so Reilly, who had starred against Israel, Roche, Vojtek, Mackay, and Denton were omitted to make room for Romanowicz, Irvine, Perin, and Keddie. Despite the changes, Australia won 2-1 with goals by Richards and Keddie, and a penalty reply by Katzmon.

Next came one of Australia's greatest soccer triumphs — perhaps the greatest outside the

World Cup. Athens was the venue and not even the great Mimis Domazos could prevent Australia from beating the full Greek national team 3-1. In fact little was seen of Domazos, as he was blotted out by his shadow, Jimmy Mackay, who managed to score a goal as well as tend to his defensive duties. Alston and George Blues notched the other two goals and Elefgerokis, netted for the home side in a result that caused a senstation in Greece and sent mild shock waves throughout Europe. It was the full Greek team that had been defeated, including all the big stars – Domazos Papaouannou, Sideries, Dedes, Economopoulos, Gaitadjis etc.

Newspapers in Athens carried indignant banner headlines, condemning their national team and their coach for allowing themselves to be so humiliated by the upstarts. At the same time, however, they paid the Australian players the compliments they had so richly deserved.

Alston scored again in Australia's 1-1 draw with Greece "B" (goal: Davourlis) in Kavala before the Socceroos arrived in London, to be greeted by complete apathy. Australia had matches lined up against Luton Town, Manchester City and the League of Ireland in Dublin, but the British Press ignored the visit almost entirely.

Luton, just promoted to Second Division, had as its No. 1 drawcard the great Malcolm Macdonald who had scored 28 goals the previous season and who was later to play for Newcastle and Arsenal. Mike Keen had been bought from Queens Park Rangers and other stars included David Court (ex-Arsenal) and Roger Hoy (ex-Crystal Palace).

Australia won 2-1 in the heavy mud, against all expectations. Mike Denton and Adrian Alston, who was to join Luton four years later, had the lasting pleasure of scoring the two Australian goals, while, Malcolm Macdonald netted for Luton.

Jack Reilly later described "Supermac's" goals as one of the finest he has seen. "Manfred Schaefer, who was marking Macdonald, had the ball covered as it came towards us but he slipped in the mud as he was about to take off for his header," Reilly said. "Macdonald was about three feet behind Schaefer and before we knew it, he had jumped four feet into the air and headed that ball into the back of the net. It was pouring rain that day but Macdonald played very well, despite the close marking of Manfred Schaefer."

Although Australia had played so well in Luton, Manchester City did not deign to field its senior team against the visitors. Instead, City turned out its reserves in the heftiest slap in the face that the Socceroos have had to endure. Exhausted by the killing pace of the latter part of the tour, and sapped of strength by the ankle-deep mud, Australia succummed to a 0-2 defeat, with Smith and Brennan notching the goals for City.

There was no joy in Dublin either, as Hale scored in the 29th minute to give the League of Ireland XI a 1-0 victory over the tired tourists and in Mexico, the Socceroos were simply outclassed by a far superior team. Playing without injured Manfred Schaefer and forward Billy Vojtek who was out after a bitter clash with Rasic, Australia had no answer to the speed and great skill of the Mexicans who won 3-0 with two goals by Valdivia and one by Gomez.

When the Socceroos came home after seven hectic weeks, Johnny Warren was Australia's most capped player, with 29 internationals to his credit, and Jack Reilly, Col Curran, Peter Wlson. Harry Williams, Jimmy Mackay and Ray Richards had laid the foundations for their brilliant international careers. Just as significantly, Rale Rasic had established himself as a coach with few, if any equals in Australia.

Tour appearances: 15. Wilson. Warren, Richards, Denton; 14. Reilly, Schaefer, Blues; 12, Mackay, Alston; 11. Vojtek, Roche; 9, Curran, Yaager; 7, Doyle; 5. Irvine; 4, Perin, Williams; 2, Keddie, Romanowicz.

Greek captain Mimis Domazos (left) shakes hands with his direct opponent, Jimmy Mackay, after Australia's 3-1 victory over Greece in Athens in 1970. At right is Peter Wilson.

Scorers: 6. Denton; 4. Alston, Richards; 3. Vojtek, Keddie, Blues, Warren; 2. Doyle; 1 Mackay, Irvine.

Rasic chose the following as the best players on tour (in order): 1 Wilson, 2 Schaefer, 3. Warren. 4. Reilly, 5. Denton

RIOTING IN VIETNAM

The Socceroos' next overseas campaign took place in October, 1972, when the Rasic Raiders stormed across Asia, leaving Indonesia, New Zealand, Vietnam, South Korea and the Philippines lying crushed in their wake.

Of the players-originally invited George Keith, Billy Rogers, Alan Marnoch, John Watkiss and John Nyskohus did not make the tour for one reason or another. Players who became Socceroos on this tour were Branko Buljevic, (Footscray J.U.S.T., now Fitzroy-Alexander). John McDonald (Auburn), and Doug Utjesenovic (St. George) who had just been naturalised.

Before leaving, the tourists were ordered to have their hair cut. Hair below the collar was frowned upon in some Asian countries, and the ASF was taking no chances...

The first match – against Indonesia in Djakarta – set the scene for a tour marred by violence. It started in the 62nd minute when play was interrupted by a fight between Adrian Alston and Indonesian midfielder Santoso. The trouble spread as Alston was kicked in the face by Iswadi and Max Tolson – usually the "enforcer" copped one above the eye. Police rushed onto the pitch to prevent the fighting from spreading.

Australian Mike Denton (No. 9) gets in a shot at the Irish goal in the representative match between the two countries in Dublin in 1970. Ireland won the match with a single goal by Hale.

Before the start of Australia's match against South Vietnam in 1972, the Socceroos paraded around Saigon's Cong Hoa stadium carrying the Vietnamese flag to placate the crowd which had pelted the Australians with rocks and paper a few days earlier, in protest against what they felt was rough play. The players pictured are, from left: Ray Baartz, Peter Wilson and George Harris.

Buljevic, the elegant Victorian forward who had a sensational tour, had three narrow misses before Indonesian defender Juswardi was carried off on a stretcher after a foul by Bobby Hogg. Buljevic and Tolson gave Australia a 2-0 lead after 60 minutes and Ray Baartz converted a penalty for a foul on Alston before Indonesia scored its consolation goal from a penalty seven minutes from the end. Buljevic replied by scoring a fourth for Australia in a move involving Warmen, Abonyi and Tolson.

Indonesia's line-up included Pasla Udjang, Iswadi, Suaeb Rizal and Abdul Kadir who were to play against Australia in the 1973 World Cup qualifying series.

The line-up was: Pasla; Juswadi (Rachman 34th). Machful Umar, Santoso, Anwar Udjang, Mudjiadi, Iswadi, Djunaedi Abdillah (Andi Lalla 71st), Arwijanto (Risdianto 53rd), Suaeb Rizal, Abdul Kadir.

Alan Vest, now coach of Newcastle KB United in the Philips League, gave Australia a shock in the second match of the tour, by scoring for New Zealand in the seventh minute. Attila Abonyi equalised with a chip shot after a move involving Jim Armstrong and John McDonald in the 26th minute and Armstrong was unlucky to see a good shot hit the post. With Bogdan Nyskohus, Terry Butler, Armstrong and McDonald in the opening line-up, the Australian team was an experimental one, and it sorely missed the height of Alston, Buljevic and Tolson in attack. This changed when Alston and Buljevic, as well as Baartz, came on for the second half. Baartz made it 2-1 only nine minutes after coming on and John Warren, sealed the result in the 76th minute. As usual, centre backs Wilson and Schaefer were magnificent. Baartz and Buljevic were excellent when they came on and McDonald had a superb debut in midfield. The

The Socceroos are given a hero's welcome on their return from the 1970 world tour. At the front is George Blues and under the hat Ray Baartz.

New Zealand team, which included many of the 1973 World Cup players, was:

Morris (Curtin 68th); Sibley, Tillotson, Turner (Ashurst 54th), Ferguson, Hastie, Tindall (Taylor 60th) Marley, Vest, Pollard, Ormond.

(Note that Dave Taylor played for Sydney Croatia. Vest now coaches Newcastle and Alan Marley played for Brisbane City in 1978).

The most bizarre incidents surrounding an Australian team occurred in Saigon — next stop on the Asian tour. The Vietnamese fans, who saw overseas teams only rarely, were not accustomed to the vigorous but fair tackling of the robust Australians, and so they cried foul. At the end of the match against a Saigon under 23 All-Star team, which Australia beat 2-0 with both goals coming from Buljevic, a large section of the crowd rushed onto the field and attempted to stop the Australians from leaving. The angry fans pelted bottles, rocks, iron sticks and even petrol at the players as 400 soldiers tried to disperse the angry mob. Because this was war-torn-Saigon, the riot had a shattering effect on the Australian players. Lou Gautier of "Soccer World" who was travelling with the team, and who reported the brawling, wrote: "I have never been so scared in all my life."

After waiting in their dressing room for half an hour, the Socceroos were finally able to board their bus, but before it drove off, an irate fan hurled a bottle through one of the windows. Back at their hotel, the players voted unanimously not to play the second game, against the full South Vietnam national team. However, they relented to pressure from Vietnam Government and Football Association officials and the Australian Ambassador. There were fears of more serious demonstrations should the Socceroos pull out of the match.

And so the Australians made their way to the Cong Hoa Stadium with a heavy escort, through streets cleared by riot police, to face an unpredictable crowd of 23,000.

Overnight, the Australian officials had formulated a plan that they hoped would placate the simmering fans. If it didn't, the Socceroos would have to rely on the many hundred Vietnamese soldiers carrying electric batons. The Australians' plan became clear when the players emerged from the dressing room carrying a big Vietnamese flag which they paraded around the field. As they ran, groups of spectators started to clap hesistantly. Others joined in, some started to cheer and before they knew it, the Socceroos had gained at least enough support to stave of the lynching they had feard.

The Vietnamese team did its part by parading the Australian flag and Australian team manager John Barclay had a message read in Vietnamese, apologising to the spectators for Australia's "rough" play in the previous match. What's more, Rasic instructed his players to change their style completely, and they proceeded to play tippy-tappy football, stroking the ball artistically from man to man and going out of their way to avoid body contact. The result was a match of gentle, pretty football at which Australia excelled, surprisingly. And whenever a foul was committed — unintentionally — the Australian player would help his opponent up and pat him on the head for all the crowd to see.

Australia won by the slender margin of 1-0 and again the goal came from Buljevic who scored from 12 metres after Tolson had relayed a long throw from Richards, Bobby Hogg was the best player.

The South Vietnam line-up was: Chau, Mong, Hue, Ng Ngon, Trung, Cang, Hung, Tha, Xinh, Anh, Nan Ngon.

Seoul — scene of rioting when Australia played there previously — was the next tour stop, so the Socceroos could have been forgiven for expecting the worst. On the contrary — compared with Saigon, the Seoul stopover was as peaceful and pleasant as a picnic by the sea. The results were even better — a 1-1 draw and a 2-0 victory, for South Korea was and still is Asia's best team east of Iran.

The 1-1 draw gave Rasic and his players special satisfaction, as it was achieved despite a mediocre performance by the Socceroos. Only Max Tolson rose above the ordinary. Ray Baartz and even Branko Buljevic played poorly and still the Socceroos were able to share the spoils. Max Tolson opened the scoring in the 12th minute of a dull first half in which the Koreans were also woeful. However, the home team improved dramatically after the interval and their energetic play in attack finally netted the equalising goal, scored by Lee Cha Man.

Rasic reshuffled his team for the return match, resulting in a rather easy 2-0 victory. Ray Baartz scored in the 13th minute and Jim Armstrong in the 42nd while Doug Utjesenovic, Ray Richards, Peter Wilson and Johnny Warren were the star performers. Bobby Hogg had to be carried off on a stretcher six minutes from the end when he was kicked viciously on the ankle.

Korea's line-ups:

First match: Lee Sae Yun; Park Yung Tae, Kim Ho, Lee Chan Man, Kim Kyung Joong, Hwang Jae Man, Kim Ho Kon, Park, Soo Duk (Kim Jin Kook 20th), Park Ee Chun, Cha Bum Keun, Chung Kyu Poong (Lee Hoe Tek 67th).

Second match: Lee Sae Yun; Park Yung Tae, Kim Ho, Kim Ho, Kon, Kim Kyung Yung, Lee Cha Man, Kon Jae Wook (Hwang Jae Man 27th). Cha Bum Keun, Park Ee Chun, Chung Kyu Poong, Kim Jin Kook (Lee Whae Taik half time.)

The Korean Press conceded after the two — match confrontation that Australia had the better team, but argued that it wasn't as good as the one that had competed in the World Cup qualifying series in Soeul in 1969.

The "Sports Daily" said: "Australia fielded a stronger team in 1969. Their forwards then were more aggressive and shot more fiercely. The 1972 team is better organised in defence but lacks real class. Australia, all the same, is the team to beat for the World Cup."

"Soccer Weekly" said: "Korea must rethink its football. An average Australian team was far too good for our national side. The Australians did not play as hard as in 1969 but they will certainly harden their game in the World Cup."

The last match of the tour, against the weak Philippines in Manila, was notable only because it confirmed that Johnny Warren had fully recovered from his knee injury and that he would be able to play in the World Cup matches of 1973. Warren put everything he had into his game. Had his teammates done likewise, Australia would have won not by 6-0, but by 10-0 or more. Although up against a home team that was amateurish, slow and unfit, Australia could manage no more than one goal — an Abonyi penalty — in the first half. Had the Socceroos not ambled, fiddled and procrastinated the way they did, they would have held a commanding lead by the interval, despite the brilliance of goalkeeper Eddie Llamas. After stern words from Rasic, the Socceroos pulled themselves together in the second half and it took only seven minutes for Buljevic to score from one of his expertly-taken free kicks. Terry Butler scored his first goal for Australia a little later and Warren, Utjesenovic and Richards completed the six-goal haul.

The Philippines line-up was: Llamas; Maristela, Rojas, Esteva, Duqua, Villaraza (de la Cruz 14th min.), Broce, Augustin, Crame (Genato 28th), Gutierrez, Lagdameo.

On return to Australia, Peter Wilson was judged best tour player; Ray Richards was named as the player who put on the best individual performance in a match; Manfred Schaefer was voted most consistent and of course, Branko Buljevic was top scorer of the tour. Each won a cash prize of $100 but they pooled the money, meaning each player in the squad received a $20 cheque.

Tour appearances: 7. Wilson, Shaefer; 6. Richards, Rooney, Warren, Baartz, Abonyi, Buljevic; 5. Hogg; 4. Reilly, Mackay, Utjesenovic; 3. Harris, Corry, B. Nyskohus, Armstrong; 2. McDonald Butler.

GLOOM IN ISRAEL

Spirits were high as the Socceroos embarked for West Germany in May, 1974, on their greatest adventure — the World Cup finals. No-one expected much because the Australians were, after all, rank outsiders, but that suited them. Peter Wilson and his men were at least confident of giving the giants a run for their money.

Confidence was boosted by a 2-1 victory over Indonesia in Jakarta on the way to Germany, but dark clouds started to gather right after the game, when an injury to Col Curran's knee was diagnosed by Dr. Brian Corrigan as being serious enough to perhaps keep him out of the Cup finals. There seemed to be a curse on Australian left backs. Curran's predecessor, Bobby Hogg, had had his career ended by a serious injury in a club match with St. George, and Harry Williams, who was standing by to take Curran's place, was lucky to be alive after a bout with encephalitis.

Concern over Curran removed much of the joy of the Socceroos' Jakarta victory, although that victory was the result of some of the most sparkling soccer they had played. A crowd of 62,000 turned up at the Senayan Stadium, every one of them hoping to see the home team get revenge for their elimination from the World Cup by the Socceroos. It was a brilliant match that could easily have yielded nine goals instead of three, but any way you looked at it, Australia would have emerged with a narrow victory. Had it not been for great goalkeeping by Ronny Pasla, Australia would have had a more decisive triumph. Mind you, Jack Reilly also had a lot to do, and he did it with equal excellence.

The match started sensationally when referee Juremi awarded a mysterious penalty against Australia as Abdul Kadir weaved his way through the defence. Fortunately for Australia, Kadir shot badly from the spot, and missed. Austratia went to a 2-0 lead with goals by Wilson and Curran, each from Abonyi corner kicks, in the 77th and 80th minutes. Indonesia hit back when Waskito, being flagged offside by a linesman, broke through the defence in the dying minutes.

Indonesia's line-up was: Pasla, Harharha, Bahalwan, Subordro, Oyong, Liza, Batjo, Achmad, Waskito, Patinasarany, Risdianto (Andi Lala 85th), Asmara (Abdillah 80th), Abdul Kadir.

The Socceroos' visit to Tel Aviv for two matches against Israel, started with Ray Richards almost being thrown into jail!

Immigration officers seized Richards at the passport counter at Lod Airport and whisked him into a side room to be questioned before team manager John Barclay could protest. The uniformed officers claimed Richards bore the same name and was almost the "twin" of a man linked with Arab guerillas. Protests by Barclay and Israeli Football Federation officials failed but just as the Socceroo party was about to board its hotel-bound bus, Mr Joseph Dagan secretary of the Israeli Football Federation, came racing up to say Richards was free to go. Said Richards: "We were joking on the plane that I looked something like an Arab. I suppose this moustache of mine has something to do with it. But you'd think my English accent would be a dead giveaway.

"I reckon they were trying to get their own back on me for scoring the goal in our 1-0 victory over Israel in Tel Aviv in 1970. I'll just have to do the same again this time."

Australia's Ray Baartz is pulled by an Indonesian policeman amidst confusion after a fist fight during Australia's 4-1 victory over the Indonesian national team in Djakarta in 1972.

But Richards, cockiness was ill-founded. After Israel had beaten Australia 2-1, Mr Dagan told the Press: "If Australia plays like this against West Germany in the World Cup, they will lose 10-0". Utter gloom set in. The Socceroos who had left Australia in high spirits had lost a prestige match to their fiercest rivals and still had Col Curran sidelined with his knee injury. Les Scheinflug was in charge of the Aussies for this match, as Rale Rasic had flown to Leipzig to watch East Germany in action, but Scheinflug played it exactly as Rasic would have played it. Even when Australia was a goal down, it still played with only one or two forwards upfield, with Alston sometimes dropping way back into defence. "This is our pattern for the World Cup and we are sticking to it," Scheinflug explained. Only Wilson, Williams, Schaefer and Richards rose above the ordinary in this match, while the Israelis were faster, fiercer and much more adventurous. Yehoshua Feigenbaum, who had often played against Asstralia before, had a brilliant match and scored Israel's first goal after 58 minutes. It was again Feigenbaum — given the run of the pitch despite the danger he posed — who made it 2-0 with an opportunist header from Zvi Rosen's free kick two minutes from the end. Australia had to be content with a lone goal by Jimmy Mackay right on full time.

Israel's line-up: Sorinov; Hajaj, Rosen, Schwager, Bello, Schum, Feigenbaum, Leventhal, Damti (Nachness 80th). Peterts, Masuari.

The Australians were surprised to learn afterwards that the second game was to be not against Israel, but against a combined club side. They were utterly shocked when they saw the ground on which that game was to be played. A thorough inspection of it revealed there was glass on it, apart from the surface being about as even as the Grand Canyon. After a hurried get-together, the Australian officials flatly refused to expose the players to the risk of serious injury, and so the game was called off.

To help the Socceroos to acclimatise and to get them used to European opposition, three games had been arranged for them in Switzerland — against St. Gallen, Young Boys and Xmax Neuchatel.

Manfred Schaefer gave the team a fright by announcing he may fly home from Switzerland. He said the ASF had made certain monetary promises to him to enable him to leave his milk vendor' business in Sydney for the term of the World Cup commitment but that the promises had not yet been kept. "I hope that something can be done quickly," he said. "If not, I will pack my bags and leave for Sydney as soon as we reach Switzerland."

But good news followed shortly afterwards — not only for Schaefer out also for Col Curran. Schaefer got his money and Curran's refusal to give in to adversity began to pay off. The rugged Newcastle full back had been working out regularly in gymnasiums, spending hours lifting a 10 kg bag of sand with the injured leg. "It's murder lifting the sand bag, but my knee is getting stronger each day," he said.

In Switzerland, Curran trained with the squad and stayed on the track long after the others had gone in. At one stage he collapsed with exhaustion but even then allowed himself only a brief rest before pushing himself further. His hard work paid off and after missing the first two games in Switzerland, he played against Neuchatel in the third, and went on to play in all three World Cup games, although he had to be replaced by Harry Williams in the scoreless draw with Chile.

Adrian Alston was the sensation of the first game in Switzerland, scoring a hat-trick in the 4-1 defeat of St. Gallen. The fourth was an own goal by defender Peter Guggi. Alston's hat-trick came in a space of only nine minutes during the second half, and St. Gallen's consolation goal came from Swiss international Rolf Blatter in the 82nd. minute. Allan Maher made an excellent debut in this match, and the other goalkeeper, Jimmy Milisavljevic, was given a run in the next game — a 2-0 victory over Young Boys of Berne. The St. Gallen game, by the way, featured John Watkiss' last appearance in the green and gold of Australia. He was in sparkling form and his prompting, together with that of Wilson, stirred young Harry Williams to new heights.

Rasic used the three Swiss games as a final trial series for five players vying for two positions — the fourth midfield spot and the second striker's berth. Alston was definitely one of the strikers — and although Buljevic had the inside running for the other place up front, Abonyi and Ollerton also had some claims. For the midfield position, it was a choice between John Warren and Ernie Campbell.

Australia beat Young Boys 2-0 with goals by Richards and Abonyi and downed Xmax Neuchatel 1-0 with Richards scoring again. Rasic had by then decided to use Buljevic as the second striker but the fourth midfield spot was still in doubt. He found the ideal solution in Germany, using first Warren, then Campbell and finally Abonyi.

DISAPPOINTMENT OF 1976

When the "new" Socceroos of Jim Shoulder set off on their 1976 world tour, they knew they would be compared with their predecessors who had done so well on the 1970 campaign.

Despite the optimism of coach and players afterwards, there was no escaping the disappointing reality that Australia 1976 was nowhere near as good as Australia 1970-74, although some of the stalwarts were still there — Utjesenovic, Wilson, Rooney, Abonyi.

For three players this was a thoroughly forgettable tour. Goalkeeper Allan Maher spent five days in a Hong Kong hospital recovering from kidney damage suffered in the second tour game against Singapore; Richie Bell was kept out of soccer for about a year as a result of a knee injury suffered in West Germany against Hamburger SV and Dough Utjesenovic was laid up also for a year due to a knee injury against Sunderland in England.

On the other hand, the tour provided valuable experience for the players who had never toured extensively before — John Kosmina, Gary Marocchi, Todd Clarke, John Nyskohus, Jim Tansey, Col Bennett, Gary Byrne, Agenor Muniz.

Unfortunately, the blooding of these players did not prove of long-term benefit to the national team.

Muniz was dropped later by Jim Shoulder; Clarke was injured for a long time and even now is not the No. 1 c hoice: Marocchi and Nyskohus showed in 1977 they weren't really ready for what they had been groomed for — World Cup competition; Jim Tansey remained the understudy for Harry Williams and only Col Bennett really did what was expected of him.

But most of these players are still in the running for the national team and they may yet prove to be the giants Australia needs to lift the Socceroos back to their former glory.

Almost every critic in Australia agreed before the 1976 tour that the squad was short of talent in attack and that Branko Buljevic and Neville Morgan of St. George should be been included. They weren't.

Although Shoulder said again and again that he was trying to encourage an attacking approach by his team, he simply didn't have the class forwards who could put the ball into the net against strong opposition (as strong, at least, as the opposition encountered in 1970). Even in Asia which had for so long been the Socceroos' favorite hunting ground, the tourists failed to fire up front. They managed only a 1-1 draw with Indonesia, a 1-0 win against Singapore and a 2-0 win against Hong Kong before going on to better things in China where the opposition was inexperienced.

In Indonesia, the Socceroos had to contend with 28 deg. temperature and humidity of 90 per cent. "It was like running around inside an oven," Jimmy Rooney said. Peter Ollerton tried valiantly in attack, Dave Harding was a tower of strength in midfield and Peter Wilson stroked the ball around elegantly in defence as part of the team's go-slow tactic but overall it was not an impressive performance and Indonesia had by far the better of the second half. After a fine goal by Abonyi in the first half, the Socceroos led until the 83rd. minute when a 30-metre shot by Suaib Rizal took a bad bounce in front of the clutching Allan Maher, flew into his face and was deflected into the net. Maher, who had turned in an impeccable performance until then, clasped his hands to his head in despair. "It's the sort of thing I have seen happen to other keepers but I never thought it would happen to me,"he said afterwards.

Of Australia's 1-0 win over Singapore, the "Straits Times" reported : "If this performance was the best they could offer there is no doubt they will be sacrificial lambs on the altar of Argentina — if they manage to get there."

Maher got his kidney injury when he dived onto a loose ball and collected the full force of Hayil Ibrahim's boot. A little earlier, Murray Barnes had to be replaced after injuring his shoulder.

After a forgettable and scoreless first half, little John Nyskohus inspired the Socceroos to a much better showing by running himself to a virtual standstill, cutting holes in the defence with his split-second acceleration. It was good work by Nyskohus that led to the winning goal in the 49th. minutes. He burst through the middle and crossed to Ollerton who deftly floated the ball over goalkeeper Edmund Wee.

Australia's back four — Harris, Wilson, Bennett and Tansey were efficient and reliable, Clarke was sound in goal, Ollerton and Nyskohus ran hard in attack but the midfield was disappointing. Singapore played without its top player and captain, Seek Poh Leong.

Richie Bell — out for a year due to a knee injury in the game against Hamburger SV in 1976

Muniz, Rooney and Harding constituted a much sounder midfield against Hong Kong, but faded noticeably late in the second half, while Kosmina's effectiveness was reduced by the tight marking of Choi Yuk Yue. Hero of the match was Doug Utjesenovic who defied a severe stomach upset to take the field and set up Australia's 2-0 victory. Utjesenovic, who had had a sleepless night, had to be replaced at half time but by then he had done sufficient damage to Hong Kong's confidence. In the 35th. minute his perfect cross found Kosmina who was hacked down and awarded a penalty. Attila Abonyi calmly strode up and slammed the ball into the net.

A minute before half time, Utjesenovic sent over a low cross for Nyskohus to hurl himself full-length and head home his first goal in a full international.

At the break, the Hong Kong players were jeered from the pitch by some 20,000 fans who then amused themselves by bombarding each other with thousands of paper darts. There had been a huge betting spree on the local team at even money but Hong Kong never measured up to the odds.

Next came the first visit to China by an Australian soccer team. ASF president Sir Arthur George, who joined the tourists in Hong Kong, called it "a momentous occasion."

"My attitude as president of the ASF is that you can't ignore one quarter of the world's population. I said this at the FIFA Congress in Montreal and I know the Australian Government thinks the same." he added. However, neither of the two games played in China, nor the one played in Melbourne in 1975, could be recognised as full internationals as China was not a FIFA member.

The Socceroos' first opponents, in Peking before a crowd of 80,000, was billed as a "Chinese Selection." The huge crowd was given a memorable display of goalscoring, with Australia winning narrowly, 5-4. Ankle deep water and mud, the result of extremely heavy rain, prompted AAP reporter Ian Telford to refer to the game as the "Peking water follies."'

Eight goals came in a frantic 30-minute spell before half time and Kosmina slid home the winner a minute after the interval. "That's the best team we have played on tour so far. They are going to be a force to be reckoned with." Jim Shoulder said after the game. Attila Abonyi was Australia's best but the man of the match was China's speedy left winger Shen Hsiang-Fu, a player of true international class. Here's how the goals fell; Abonyi 1-0, Li Wei Miao 1-1, Abonyi 2-1, Li Wei Shsiao 2-2, Bell 3-2, Kosmina 4-2, Shen Shing Fu 4-3, Liu Li Fu 4-4, Kosmina 5-4.

The Socceroos had never encountered such a polite crowd. They applauded politely, cheered with restraint and never booed. At the gate each paid only the equivalent of 5 cents, under the government policy of "sport for pleasure, not profit."

Ollerton had been on the bench in Peking due to slight groin strain, but he returned for the second match, against China in Canton, and scored both goals in Australia's 2-0 victory. Again the pitch was a quagmire but this time it did not deter the Socceroos, who put on their best performance since the start of the tour, much to the delight of the 35,000 spectators.

In Tel Aviv, the Socceroos met a brand new Israeli national team, featuring emerging stars Damti, Leventhal, Avi Cohen and others. This time, the '76 'Roos did better than their predecessors, drawing 1-1 instead of losing as the '74 tourists had. Peter Wilson scored Australia's goal while Malmillian goaled for Israel.

There were now five games to go, all in Europe, and Australia failed to win any of them — even against lowly German Second Division team KSV Baunatal.

Hamburger SV, which didn't even field its first team, beat Australia 2-1, PSV Eindhoven won 2-1. Baunatal drew 1-1. Sunderland won 2-0 and Birmingham thrashed the tourists 4-1.

Eindhoven fielded the most impressive line-up which included the van der Kerkof twins and Postuma. It was Willie van der Kerkhof and Postuma who scored the goals, while Kosmina replied for Australia.

In Baunatal a goal by John Nyskohus saved Australia from disgrace and the only goal in England was scored by Abonyi against Birmingham, whose four were shared by Trevor Francis and Joe Gallagher. The goals in Sunderland's 2-0 win came from Rowell and Greenwood.

After the tour, in an article in "Soccer Action," Jim Tansey and Doug Utjesenovic said they were confident of reaching the World Cup finals and that everyone was extremely pleased with the coaching partnerhsip of Jim Shoulder and his assistant Ron Smith of Victoria.

Both of them said Branko Buljevic, veteran of the 1974 World Cup finals, should be in the squad. Striker Peter Ollerton said the same thing even before the Socceros left on their tour. Utjesenovic said: "Branko can take on any player, he has experience and he is dangerous with his head." Tansey said: "There is a shortage of good strikers in the squad. If Ollerton or John Kosmina were to get injured, we'd be in trouble. On sheer football ability, Buljevic should certainly be in the squad." Apart from Buljevic, the squad also needed one or two more good midfielders like Ray Richards, according to Utjesenovic. The St. George defender said midfielders Gary Byrne and Jimmy Rooney were the best players on tour. Tansey had praise for South Australian forward John Kosmina. He added coach Shoulder and his assistant Smith had been "very good." "The boys liked them and both were very approachable," Tansey said.

The Hamburger SV squad of 1977/78, then coached by Rudi Gutendorf (right) who left Germany to become coach of the Socceroos. Some of the Hamburg players pictured were in the team that met the touring Socceroos in 1976. Top row from left: Keller, Eimann, Hidien, Memering, Volkert. Middle row: Dr. Krohn (president), Buljan, Kaltz, Kargus, Stars, Nogly, Magath, Gutendorf. Front: Karrow, Ripp, Eigl, Keegan, Zacyk, Steffenhagen.

Utjesenovic said the first part of the tour showed that Australia was good enough to get past its first World Cup opponents, New Zealand and Taiwan. However, he stressed that the current team was not as good as our 1974 World Cup side.

Tansey, who was engaged to Elaine Campbell while in the U.K., named the following as Australia's strongest combination: Todd Clarke; Utjesenovic, Peter Wilson, Col Bennett, Harry Williams; Jimmy Rooney, Gary Byrne, Agenor Muniz, Attila Abonyi, Peter Ollerton, John Kosmina.

Asked to name the best team against which Australia played on tour, he chose PSV Eindhoven of Holland. "It's probably the best side I've ever seen," he said, "and we did well to lose by only 1-2. "The team included seven Dutch internationals and it was certainly better than any English team I've seen."

Tansey and Utjesenovic were still puzzled about the Socceroos' journey to obscure Baunathal.

Neither knew the reason for the game. Then there was the journey to a Bavarian castle at Daaden, where the team was put up free of charge for two nights. The reason for that visit was obviously a financial one. Their host had arranged a match in the town against the local team, but apparently the Socceroos weren't told. There they were, preparing for a training session, and the local team suddenly came running out, stripped and ready for action. So a match was staged — with the Socceroos in track suits, treating it all as a training run.

Attendances at Australia's matches were good in Asia — especially in China where crowds were as high as 80,000 — but they dropped in Europe and England. Only about 7000 turned up for the game against Eindhoven and there were less than 10,000 at Hamburg. Press coverage was, according to Tansey, great in Asia, not too bad in Germany, and non-existent in England.

Tour appearances: 10. Byrne. Abonyi. Clarke; 9. Utjesenovic, Wilson, Williams, Kosmina, Bennett; 8. Muniz, Rooney, Ollerton; 7. Harding, J. Nyskohus; 5. Marocchi, Harris, Tansey; 3. Bell; 2. Maher, Barnes.

Scorers: 5. Abonyi; 3. Ollerton, Kosmina; 2. J. Nyskohus; 1. Bell, Wilson, Williams.

HUMILIATION IN FIJI

The 0-1 loss to Fiji in Suva in 1977 still ranks as Australia's most humiliating loss since Federation. There have been bigger defeats, but none could compare with the Fiji debacle, for Fiji is one of the featherweights of world soccer and Australia fielded a near full-strength team.

This match was played as a courtesy to Fiji, host nation of Australia's two World Cup qualifying games against Taiwan. It was played shortly after Australia had won those games 3-0 and 2-1 in Ba.

The Socceroos created plenty of chances but they lacked decisive finishing. Fiji's winning goal came only five minutes from the end. There was a scramble just outside the penalty area and the ball broke clear to big forward Jimi Okete who rammed hs shot past Allan Maher.

Hundreds of jubilant Fijians invaded the pitch and it was several minutes before Fijian referee Bob Khan could restart the game.

Okete, incidentally, spent a few weeks in Australia in 1975, for coaching by Johnny Warren.

Australia found it difficult to penetrate the burly Fijian back four of Delana, Akriva, Tubuna and Monday and the shots theydid manage to launch would not go past agile goalkeeper Vula Wate. After the game, angry Australian coach Jim Shoulder said only : "No comment."

Hong Kong's goalkeeper Chu Kok Kuen knocks the ball away from Attila Abonyi during Australia's 1976 tour match. The Socceroos won 2-0.

Birmingham City winger John Connolly leaps between Harry Williams (left) and Peter Wilson, to take the ball on his chest. Australia lost the 1976 tour match 1-4. Trevor Francis, later transferred to Nottingham Forest for a million pounds, scored two of the goals.

A victim of the left back curse

When Col Curran had to take a rest from soccer due to an operation in 1971, Socceroo coach Rale Rasic was faced with the dilemma of having no adequate replacement.

He tried striker Adrian Alston in the left back position in the three games against Israel that year but it wasn't until 1972 that Bobby Hogg emerged as the new left-back star.

Hogg had come to Australia from Scottish club Stenhousemuir to join St George in 1971. A fast, aggressive tackler, he played in midfield and attack as well as defence for St George but Rasic used him as left back against Dundee in Adelaide in his first representative match.

He then played against Wolves, Santos and Bulgaria and went on the Asian tour of 1972 in preparation for the 1973 World Cup games.

However, Stenhousemuir slapped a late transfer fee on him long after he had been cleared by the Scottish FA to play for St George, and it wasn't until a few days before the first World Cup game of 1973 — against New Zealand in Auckland — that FIFA over-ruled Stenhousemuir and gave Hogg the OK to play for Australia.

But Hogg fell victim to the curse that has plagued Australian left backs, and half-way through the qualifying series, he broke a leg playing a league match for St George. Luckily Col Curran had recovered from his operation and was able to come back to replace Hogg.

Bobby Hogg

Frank Micic (left) and team-mate Joe Paliakas hold up proudly the 1976 Victorian Dockerty Cup won by Footscray J.U.S.T.

Micic the magnificent

Frank Micic's contribution to the national team was limited to a match against Everton, the 1967 Asian tour and a three-match series against Israel in 1971 but he has had such a glorious career that it would be unjust not to include him among the finest players Australia has had.

Micic doesn't know how many soccer games he played in Australia after arriving in 1959 to join Footscray J.U.S.T. Counting Dockerty Cup, Ampol Cup and various other Cup series as well as league and representative games, the figure must be around 900.

Born in Yugoslavia, he played there as a junior. When he was 17, his family migrated to the US but Frank stopped over in Italy where he played in a small local league for 18 months before deciding to go to Australia at the age of 19.

With Micic in midfield, J.U.S.T. won four State League championships (1963, '69, '71, '73), two Dockerty Cups ('63, '76), two Ampol Cups ('60, '66), one Australian Ampol Cup ('60) and three State League Cups ('73, '74, '75).

He rates the 1963 team as the best J.U.S.T. has had. It included Rale Rasic, who later coached the Socceroos. The 1963 line-up was: Marko Fode; Rale Rasic, Milenko Rusmir; Frank Micic, Billy Rice, Cec. Dixon; Enio Marinovic, Vero Mladenovic, Ivan Pikl, Mirko Pejovic, Tommy Stankovic. (Note that Rice and Stankovic also represented Australia).

Micic, who is now coach of Hakoah'St. Kilda, played about 60 games for Victoria — more than any other player — and was often State captain.

His first experience with the Australian team left him disappointed. He remembers: "I was selected in a 22-man squad for games against Everton in 1964. I went to Sydney and was picked in the 'B' team which played a trial game against Canterbury. We won 4-0 and I scored a goal. Then, someone in the 'A' team had to pull out because of an injury and because both teams had only the bare 11 players. I was asked to play again." And so, having just completed 90 minutes of soccer, Micic stepped back onto the field with the 'A' team and scored a goal in its 2-1 victory over Hakoah-Easts. "The coach, Jim Kelly, was very impressed and said that I would definitely play in the first Everton v Australia game in Melbourne," Micic says. However, much to his disappointment, he was put on the bench from where he watched Everton win 8-2. Micic got his chance in the Sydney match and was picked as a defender because he had played most of his early games for Victoria there. This time, Everton won by only 5-1 against a team that included some great players — Baumgartner, Jurecki, Iglesias, Kowalec, Ninaus...

It was remarkable that Micic did not make his next appearance for Australia until three years later — on the successful Asian tour. Unfortunately for him, he could not handle the muddy conditions in the first match, and was replaced by Manfred Schaefer, who then became a regular in that position. Micic did, however, play in five of the 10 tour matches.

After being by-passed for the tour by Japan, the visit by Greece, the 1969 World Cup games, and the 1970 world tour, Micic was recalled by coach Rasic for the three-match series against the visiting Israel in 1971. The reason was that Manfred Schaefer, the man who had displaced Micic in 1967, had temporarily retired from representative soccer and Micic was seen as the best possible replacement. He played in the three games against Israel (2-2, 1-0, 1-3) and that marked the end of his Socceroo career.

He did, however, continue playing with J.U.S.T. until the end of the 1977 season, when he was 37. He had a couple of games for Hakoah before becoming resigned to the fact that his playing days were over.

Pele at the airport. The great Brazilian played for FC Santos against Australia at the Sydney Sports Ground in 1972. The score was 2-2.

Pele's men wanted their money first

The appearance of the incomparable Pele and a 2-0 victory over Uruguay have been the highlights of Australia's "friendly" matches at home since federation.

But there have also been disappointments. All too often, visiting teams have arrived without star players — a slap in the face of the "provincial" fans Down Under.

The biggest insult was the visit of the English FA squad in 1971. The FA had an invitation since 1969 to send its national team or one comparable in strength. Yet the squad that eventually arrived included not one of the recognised international stars.

The Scottish team that visited in 1967 was also a major disappointment. None of the Celtic stars came along because the tour took place at the same time as Celtic's European Cup final against Inter Milan in Lisbon. But the great Billy Bremner of Leeds didn't come either. Neither did Peter Lorimer, or Denis Law. Other absentees included Baxter, (Sunderland), Bell, Gray (Leeds), St John, Stevenson (Liverpool), Young (Everton) and Gray (Chelsea).

In 1969 Greece arrived without eagerly-awaited superstars George Sideris and Mimis Domazos. Other absentees included George Koudas, Vassiliou Botinos and goalkeeper Panayotis Economopoulos.

Legia Warsaw came in 1975 without Robert Gadocha and the USSR arrived later the same year without Oleg Blokhin.

Even as recently as 1978, the soccer public was asked to marvel at a Greek national team that did not include Mavros, Koudas, Domazos or Papaiouannou.

The Australian Soccer Federation now tries hard to ensure that any touring team brings along its top players. However, what can you do when such players withdraw at the last moment, ostensibly because they are injured?

Other teams have shown Australia greater respect. Everton, Wolves, Spurs, Dundee, Arsenal, Celtic and Red Star were generally fully-staffed.

And despite the non-appearance of many stars we should have seen, Australian fans can nevertheless look back on some top-class performances by the champions who did deign to visit us.

These men include Jim Gabriel (Everton), Mordechai Spiegler (Israel), Kamamoto (Japan), Peter Osgood (Chelsea), Ifandidis (Greece), Cudicini (Roma), Vassiliev (Bulgaria), Macari (Manchester United), Petrovic (Red Star), Avi Cohen (Israel), Wilson (Celtic) and others.

The first tour after the lifting of Australia's suspension from FIFA was by Everton in 1964. Everton won each of its eight matches on tour, but it did so without much effort. Hence, the fans did not see the type of exciting soccer they had been hoping for.

The Everton squad was: Gordon West, Jimmy Gabriel, Dennis Stevens, Mick Meagan, Brian Labone, Derek Temple, Roy Vernon, Brian Harris, Alex Scott, Johnny Morrissey, Andy Rankin, George Heslop, Colin Harvey, Jimmy Hill, Jerry Humphreys and Johnny Hurst.

International players among them were Labone (England), Vernon (Wales), Gabriel, Scott (Scotland) and Meagan (Republic of Ireland). Heslop was to visit Australia again, with Manchester City in 1970.

Everton scored 50 goals to seven in its eight matches. The closest score was 3-1 against Victoria and the biggest win 14-1 against Western Australia.

Australia, coached by Jim Kelly, met Everton twice. A crowd of 32,500 turned up for the first clash at Olympic Park, Melbourne, on May 10. It

Everton v Australia — the match that marked Australia's re-entry into world soccer after its suspension from FIFA. This is the cover of the programme produced for the visit by the Australian Soccer Federation. The team pictured won the English First Division championship. It is, standing from left: Parker, Gabriel, West, Vernon, Labone, Meagan. Front: Scott, Stevens, Young, Catterick (manager), Temple, Kay.

The visiting Everton team had a keen follower in singer Mary Bassano, who was playing the lead in "Lilac Time" at the Tivoli in Melbourne. It was a novel twist that the players asked her to autograph their soccer ball. Holding the ball are: Jim Gabriel (left) and captain Roy Vernon (right). At rear, from left are: Brian Harry, Alex Scott, Sandy Brown, Derek Temple and Dennis Stevens.

was well short of the record 51,566 that had turned up in Sydney eight days earlier to watch Everton beat NSW 4-1.

By half time of the game in Melbourne, Everton led 4-0. The score was then 5-0, 5-1 and 5-2 before Everton scored the last three goals in the final six minutes. Jim Gabriel and Roy Vernon both scored hat-tricks and Temple got two. Australia's two came from Herbert Ninaus. The other star forwards, Mike Jurecki, Les Scheinflug, Jim Adam and Graham Barnett, were kept out by the Everton rearguard and at the other end, goalkeeper Ron Lord was helpless against the visitors' onslaught. This was Lord's only game for Australia after Federation.

For the return match on May 16 at the Sydney Showgrounds, coach Kelly replaced Lord with Audato Iglesias, the former Real Madrid star who was playing with APIA. Frank Micic replaced Peter Hrncir at right half, Matt Woods came in for Mita Stojanovic at centre half, Kaz Kowalec came in on the right wing, moving Jurecki to inside right in place of Barnett, and Vic Reynolds replaced Adam on the left wing. Les Scheinflug moved from inside left to take the place of Karl Jaros at left half, allowing Leo Baumgartner to come in at centre forward.

This time Australia managed to reach half time level at 1-1 after goals by Gabriel for Everton and Ninaus for Australia. But Everton cut loose with goals by Scott, Harvey and two by Morrissey to win by 5-1.

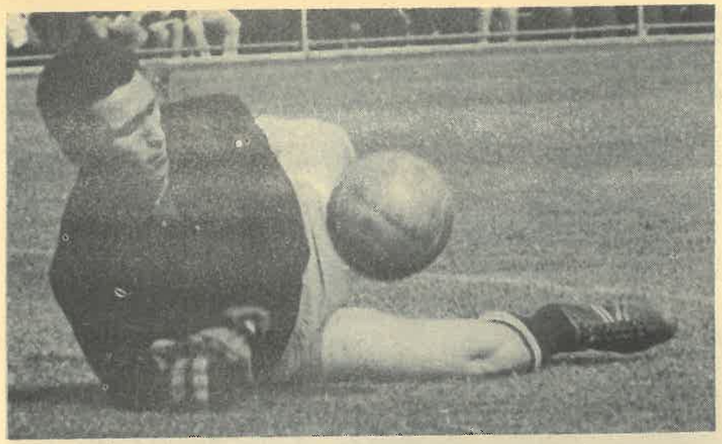
Torpedo Moscow, which toured in February-March, 1965, was a fair and sporting outfit but it was also the first of a string of teams that arrived without its top players. Missing from the Torpedo party were the great Voronin who had played in the 1962 World Cup in Chile, and who was to play also in England in 1966. Ivanov, who had also played in Chile, was another absentee, as were Shustikov, Mikhailov and Streltzov.

Nevertheless, there were enough talented men in the Tropedo team to give the crowds something to admire. The best of them was defender-midfielder Brednev, closely followed by left winger Sergeyev and goalkeeper Kavazashvili.

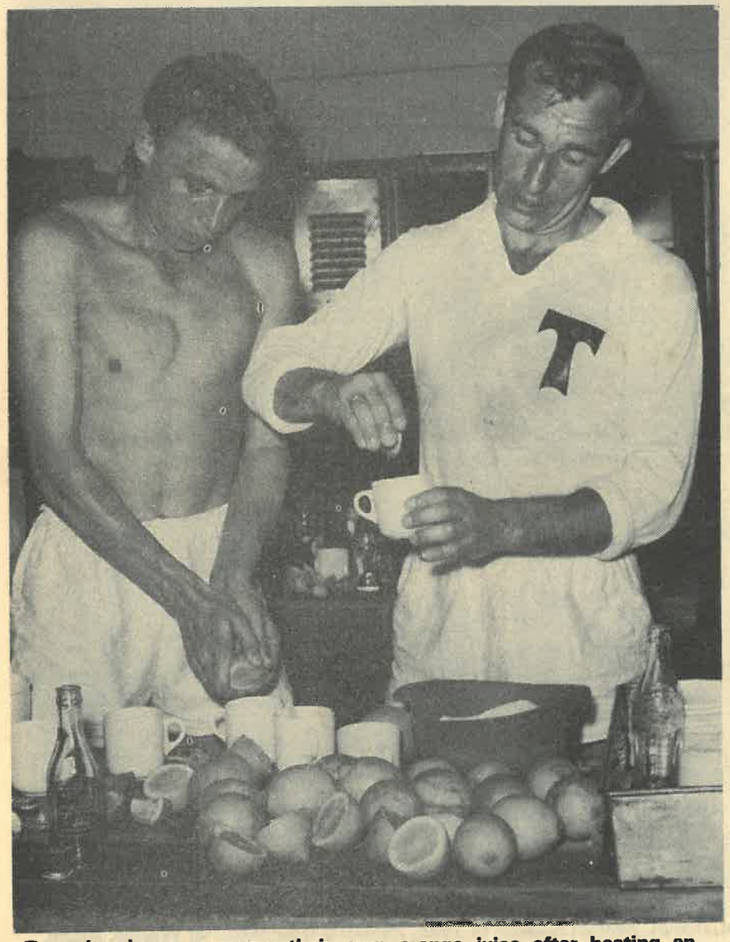
Torpedo started its tour with a game against a combined Australian XI in front of 12,000 people in Perth on February 25. Stojanovic, van Blerk, McMeechan and Tommy Stankovic were among the interstate stars flown in for the big game. Torpedo won 2-0 with goals by Solovyev and Sergeyev.

Everton's Johnny Morrissey loses the ball to NSW's brilliant defender Mita Stojanovic.

The Australian squad for the second match against Everton in 1965, standing from left: Pat Woods, Adam, Jurecki, Matt Woods, Salisbury, Ninaus, Barnett, Iglesias, Baumgartner, McGuire. Front: Kowalec, Micic, Scheinflug, Reynolds, Edwards.



Torpedo's brilliant goalkeeper Anzor Kavazashvili.



Torpedo players squeeze their own orange juice after beating an Australian eleven in Perth.

Alan Hetherington (right) hooks the ball clear of Torpedo's captain Boris Batanov in the game against NSW in Sydney. No. 6 is Les Scheinflug.

Midfielder Brednev of Moscow Torpedo, one of the finest players to have visited Australia.

Two days later the Russians were held to a 1-1 draw by a Sydney XI, the goals coming from Roy Blitz and Sergeyev. Torpedo won the remaining five games and went home with a goals tally of 16:2.

These early games were giving Australia an idea of its soccer standard, in comparison with the standard overseas. It was not at all encouraging, until Chelsea arrived in May.

The Socceroos managed to draw both their games with the Englishmen - 2-2 in Sydney and 1-1 in Melbourne. However, Chelsea had by then been depleted by the departure of Bonetti, Hollins, Tambling and Murray to join the England under 23 team which had commitments back home. The arrival of international striker Barry Bridges, who flew in after part of Chelsea's tour had already been completed, was scant compensation.

Chelsea had beaten NSW 5-0, the A.C.T. 7-0, Northern NSW 6-1, Victoria 1-0, Western Australia 6-1 and South Australia 2-1 before its first match against Australia on May 22, 1965.

Tambling was top scorer with seven goals to this stage, but he flew home before the game against Australia. Young Peter Osgood was now the team's top forward and he showed the flair that was to make him one of England's finest. Blitz and John Watkiss scored for Australia in the 2-2 draw, with Osgood and Upton notching the goals for Chelsea, whose team was:

Barron; Hinton, Harris; Boyle, Mortimore, Upton; Fascione, Bridges, Osgood, McCalliog, Houseman.

Osgood scored five goals in chelsea's 12-0 whitewash of Tasmania in Hobart before the return match against Australia in Melbourne on May 30. This time the score was 1-1 with Watkiss goaling for Australia and Bridges for Chelsea.

In that match, Chelsea's team was: Barron; Shellito (Mortimore), Harris; Boyle, Hinton, Upton; Bridges, Graham, Osgood, McCalliog (Fascione), Houseman.

Chelsea went on to beat South Coast United 1-0 and Queensland 4-0. Its final goal average over the 11 matches was 47:7.

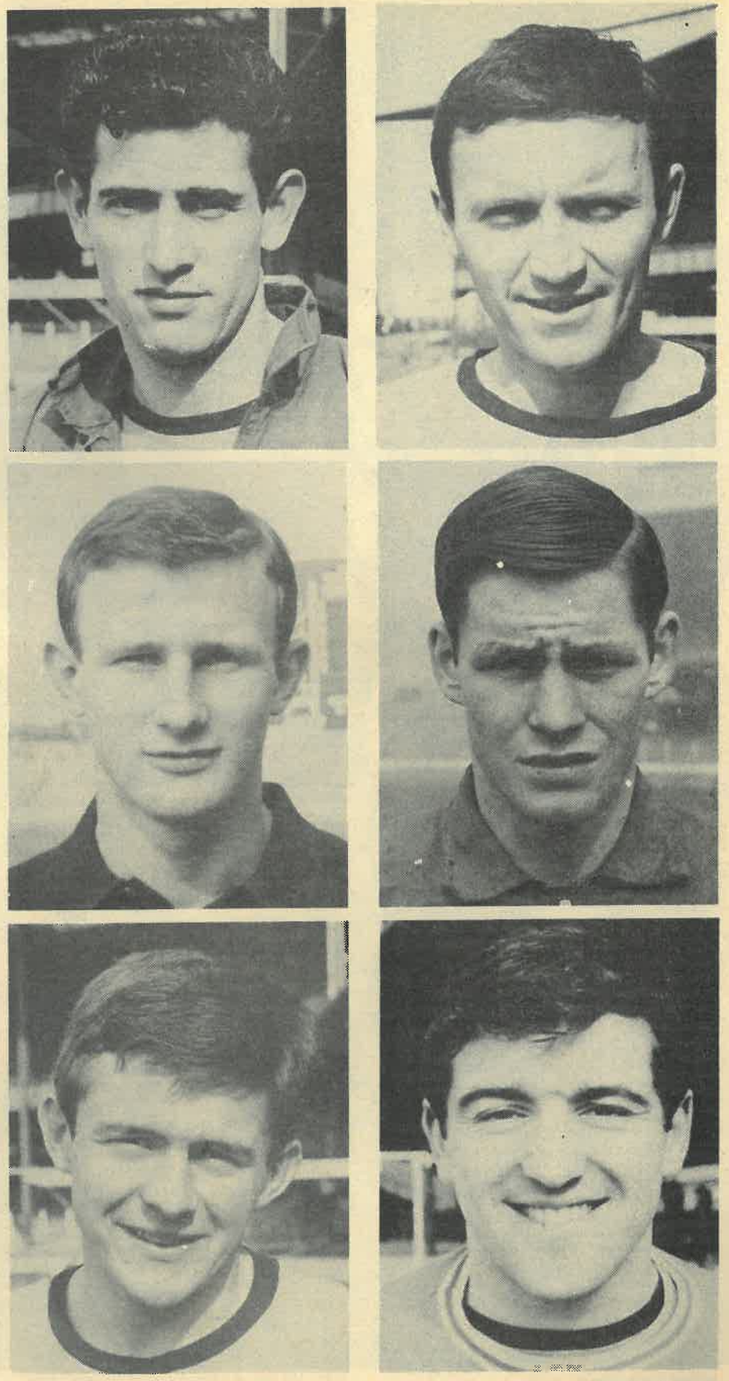
Coach Joe Marston is still shaking his head in disbelief over Australia's 1-1 draw with AS Roma of Italy in Sydney in 1966. Bruce Morrow, maintaining his record of scoring against almost every touring team against which he played, had put Australia into the lead. The Socceroos were headed for their first victory since Federation but Roma broke through to equalise in the last few moments. Goalkeeper Brian Rhodes of South Coast United and forward Ricardo Campana of APIA made their only appearance for Australia in this match. Roma, still one of the most popular teams to have toured Australia, had good players in goalkeeper Cudicini, Victor Benitez of Peru and Sergio Carpanesi.

The visit by Scotland in 1967 provided Australia with valuable practice for its tour of Asia later in the year. The makeshift Scottish squad was nothing to rave about but it managed to win all three of its games against Australia — 1-0, 2-1 and 2-0. Ray Baartz, in his first series for the national team, scored Australia's only goal in the Adelaide Test.

The series also marked the end of full back George Nuttall's career. The Canterbury star, now deceased, injured cruciate ligaments in the first match in Melbourne and his place in the other two games was taken by Cliff van Blerk.

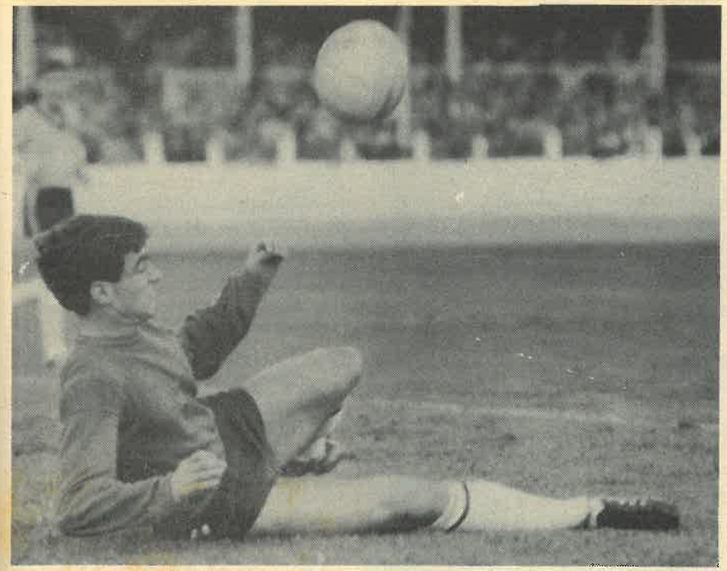
The Scots who played over the three matches were: Jim Cruickshank (goalkeeper, Hearts of Midlothian), Harry Thomson (goalkeeper, Burnley); Willie Callaghan (right back, Dunfermline), Eddie Colquhoun (centre half, West Brom), Jim Townsend (half back, Hearts), Alan Anderson (centre half, Hearts), Doug Fraser (half back, West Brom), John McCalliog (centre forward, Sheffield Wednesday), Alex Ferguson (inside left, Dunfermline), Harry Hood (winger, Clyde), Jack McGrory (centre half, Kilmarnock), Tom McLean (winger, Clyde).

Alan Westwater, a young midfielder from Pan Hellenic, who had come to Australia as a boy and returned to his native Scotland in 1963 to



Six stars of the Chelsea team that drew 2-2 and 1-1 with Australia in 1965, from top left to right: Peter Bonetti, Barry Bridges, Peter Houseman, Jim McCalliog, John Hollins, Terry Venables.

Arms reach out and bodies arch as players of Chelsea (white shirts) and Australia leap for the ball during their 1-1 draw in Melbourne. From left: Pat Hughes and goalkeeper John Roberts (Australia), Peter Osgood, George Graham and John Mortimore (Chelsea) and George Nuttall (Australia).



Australian goalkeeper Peter Fuzes concedes Scotland's winning goal in Sydney, scored by Alex Ferguson.

Chelsea's international forward Peter Osgood.

play for Stirling Albion, made his debut for Australia in the series against Scotland. So did Ray Baartz who was to go on to play in the World Cup campaigns of 1969 and 1973.

The last match against Scotland, in Melbourne, marked the end of the international careers of Bruce Morrow and Johnny Giacometti. Morrow, then 31, had played senior soccer for 12 years. He played in Sydney for Auburn and APIA from 1959 to 1962 but was a Newcastle product and was with the Wallsend club there at the time of the Scotland series. Giacometti, who came on for Morrow as a substitute, was 30 at the time. A former professional in Italy, he joined APIA in 1962 and was twice top goalscorer in Sydney. He was later to have a stint with Marconi.

The Socceroos made quite a name for themselves on their triumphant tour of Asia in 1967, so it was fair to expect good crowds for the home series against Japan in March, 1968. After all, Billy Vojtek, Tommy McColl, Johnny Warren, Ray Baartz and Alan Westwater were by now renowned for their virtuosity and Japan had a talented team preparing for the Olympic tournament in Mexico, where it was to achieve third place after beating France, Hungary and Mexico and drawing with Brazil.

However, the crowds were slightly disappointing — 8646 in Sydney, 9974 in Melbourne and 6127 in Adelaide.

The series was drawn one game all and one draw and it is interesting to note that the Japan team that beat Australia 3-1 in Adelaide in the last match was the same in 10 positions as the team that achieved third place by beating Mexico in the Olympics.

Best of the Japanese players was centre forward Kamamoto. Australian coach Joe Vlasits is still angry that the Adelaide crowd was so apathetic about the Australian team that it carried Kamamoto shoulder high off the pitch after he had scored two goals in Japan's whirlwind finish.

Tommy McColl put the Australians into the lead in the 70th minute and they seemed to be cruising to victory before Japan scored three late goals, two through Kamamoto and the other through Sugiyama.

Australia had its problems during the series. Johnny Warren was badly injured in the first

The great APIA player Johnny Giacometti — played his last match for Australia against Scotland in Melbourne.

game and missed the other two. Injury prevented centre half Dick van Alpen from playing in the second match and in the decider Ross Kelly played in goal in place of Ron Corry who was ill.

Best of the Socceroos over the three matches were Manfred Schaefer, Ray Baartz and Billy Vojtek.

The 1969 three-match series against Greece featured one of Australia's most remarkable fightbacks.

Brisbane was the venue. Georges Dedes, the Panionios star, put Greece into the lead in the 17th minute and scored again a minute before half time. Australia may have won the first game 1-0 in Sydney, but it looked doomed in this one.

However, only three minutes before half time, Billy Vojtek pulled one back after a move involving also Tommy McColl and Attila Abonyi. That goal, and words by coach Vlasits at half time, stung Australia into action and after some relentless pressure, Ray Baartz equalised with a crashing drive past goalkeeper Saraliotis in the 62nd minute.

Australia had won the first game, in Sydney, with a penalty converted by Abonyi in the 60th minute after Adrian Alston had been brought down. Alston, incidentally, was making his debut for Australia in that game.

Greece squared the series by winning the last game 2-0 in Melbourne with goals by Dedes and the great Dimitri Papaiouannou. To the disappointment of fans in Sydney and Brisbane, that was the only full game Papaiouannou played on the tour.

It's interesting to note that both Con Kambas and Con Davourlis were in the Greek squad. Kambas joined West Adelaide early in 1978 and Davourlis had guest games with Sydney Olympic.

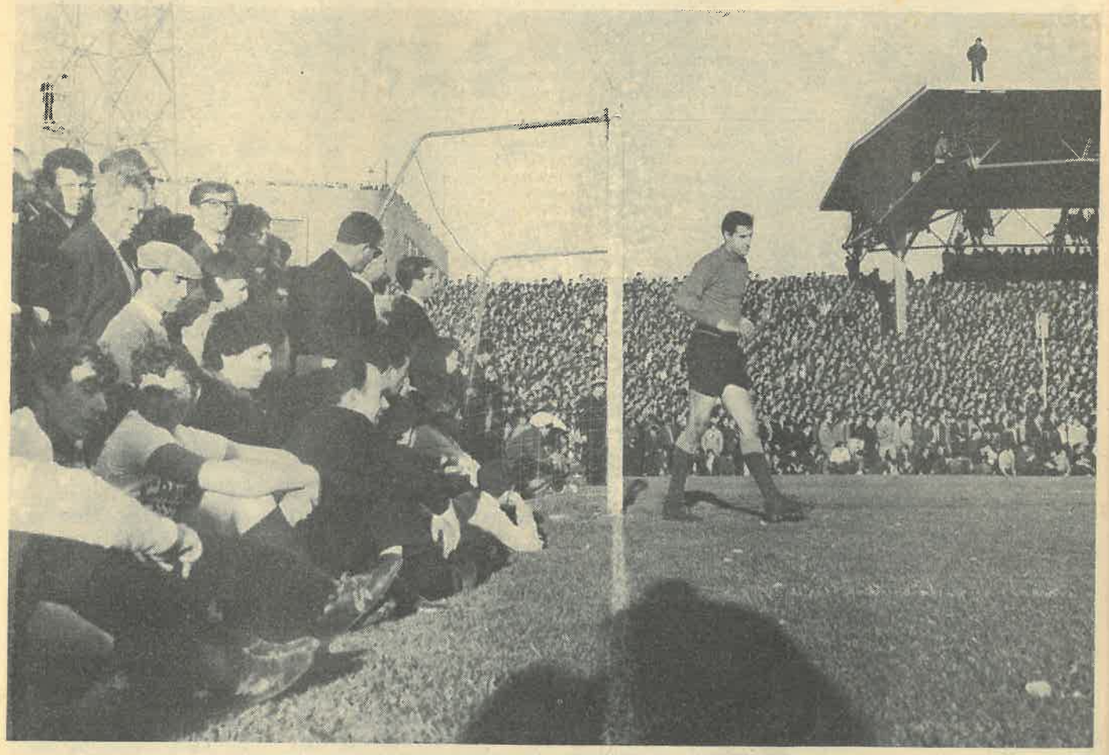
Attendances at the Greece v Australia games were: 24,022 in Sydney, 12,000 in Brisbane and 24,416 in Melbourne.

The Greek squad was: Christidis, Spiridon (Aris); Haitas, Dedes, C. Intzoglou, A. Intzoglou, Saraliotis, Dounias (Panionios); Davourlis (Panachaiki); Karafeskos, Papaiouannou (AEK); Kritikopoulos, Hatzioanoglou (Ethnikos); Aidiniou (Hercules); Sarafis (PAOK); Tsokas (Trikala); Kambas (Pierikos); Gaitidjes (Olympiakos).

Full back Franesco Carpanetti of Roma.

Roma's Peruvian winger Victor Benitez.

AS Roma half back Guiseppe Tan borini.



An Olympic Park record crowd of 35,856 spills onto the edge of the pitch to watch Roma beat Victoria 4-2. The goalkeeper is the great Cudiccini. Roma, which drew 1-1 with an Australian XI was the first Italian team to visit Australia.

Joe Vlasits had started his reign as national coach with a successful overseas tour. So it was with Rale Rasic when the Victorian took over in late 1970.

Australia's first home series under Rasic was against the makeshift English FA squad in June, 1971. It's worth noting at this point that an FA team had visited Australia in 1961, during our period of suspension from FIFA. Due to this suspension, the Englishmen refused at the last minute to play against local opposition, deciding instead to play among themselves so as not to disappoint the 6000 spectators who turned up at Marks Field. That squad included the great Bobby Moore and Tom Finney, names of the kind missing from the 1971 touring party.

To the average Australian soccer fan not one member of the FA squad was a "name" player. Instead of Bobby Charlton, Gordon Banks, Colin Bell, Martin Peters, Geoff Hurst, Rodney Marsh, we had such relative nondescripts as Peter Wall (Crystal Palace), and Alan Stephenson (West Ham). Other tourists were Peter Grummitt (Sheffield Wednesday), Peter Hindley (Nottingham Forest), Keith Eddy (Watford), Norman Piper (Portsmouth), Mick Mills (Ipswich), Chris Chilton (Hull), and Ken Wagstaffe (Hull) who later became player-coach of Victorian club George Cross.

If some of these names have a degree of charisma about them now, it is largely because years have elapsed in which the players have had time to build reputations.

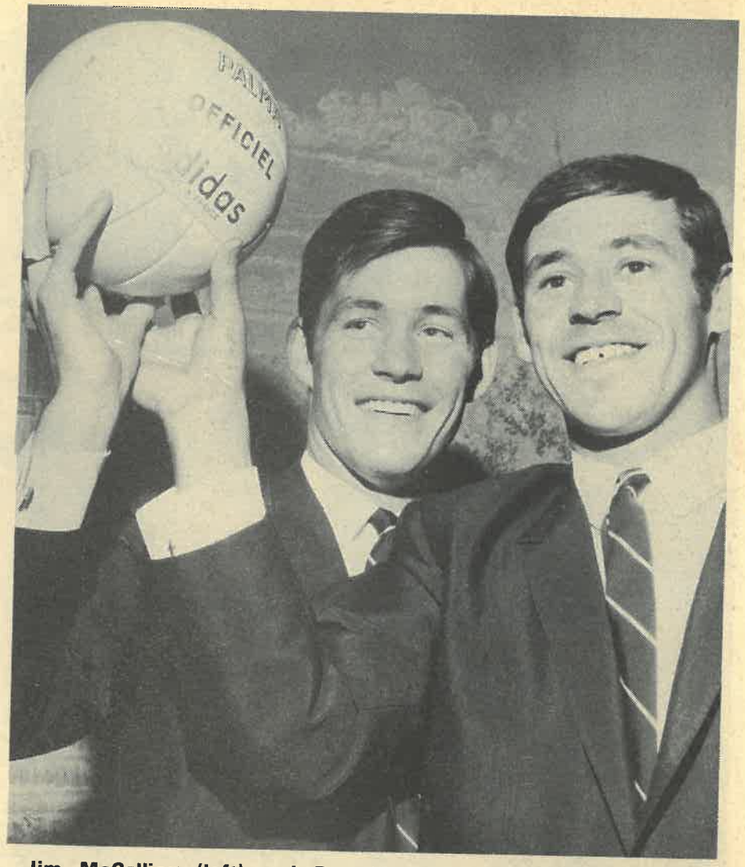
"Defectors" from the touring squad included Malcolm Macdonald and Rodney Marsh.

New players in the Australian squad were Max Tolson (South Coast Utd), Eric Norman (Adelaide Juventus), Brian Turner (Western Suburbs) and George Barboutis (Pan Hellenic). The big, tough, uncompromising striker, Max Tolson, was given a run in Melbourne and Norman came on in Sydney, whereas Barboutis stayed on the bench. Turner had to wait until a few months later to get his chance against Israel.

In both their games, the FA beat Australia 1-0. On reflection, I'd say the Socceroos would have won at least one of the matches had Jim Mackay and John Warren (injured) and Manfred Schaefer (business commitments) been available and had Billy Vojtek, Alan Marnoch and Brian Smith been selected. Smith, the blond Pan Hellenic star, was at his peak that year and deserved to play for Australia.

And there were other problems — like the still unexplained ASF "ban" on Willie Rutherford and the loss of form by Hakoah's Danny Walsh and Croatia's Dennis Yaager.

The FA beat NSW 1-0, Northern NSW 3-0 and Victoria 3-1 before it faced up to the Socceroos.



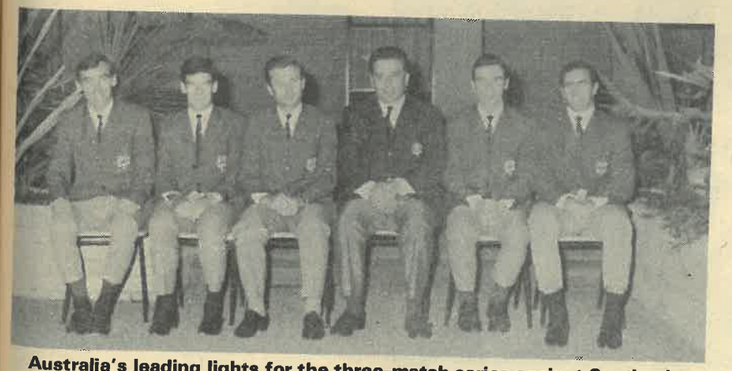
Jim McCalliog (left) and Don Fraser pose with a ball during the airport press conference for Scotland's arrival in 1967.

The tourists did nothing extraordinary in the first game. They were simply faster and less subdued, their support behind the ball was far, far better as a result, as was their back-up in defence. I also liked the constructive work of their full backs, Wall and Hindley, and the midfield play of Mills. John Watkiss was great in defence for Australia and George Keith had a good game against Chris Garland but Australia wilted badly in the second half after Watson had scored in the 52nd minute.

It was again Watson who scored the winning goal in the return game in Melbourne. He found the target in the 31st minute, after intercepting a ball which Peter Wilson had fumbled. The score was the same as it had been in Sydney, but Australia's performance was much, much better. Max Tolson, who was to be Rale Rasic's "battering ram" in so many vital games to come, showed the worth of his great strength when he replaced George Blues, goalkeeper Jack Reilly was back at his best, George Keith once again contained Garland and attacked as well, and midfielders Jimmy Rooney and Ray Baartz were both excellent.

It was a far more positive game by the Socceroos, and their enthusiastic performance won the hearts of the Melbourne fans who had long been, and who would continue to be so hard to please.

Australia's next engagement was to be the 1971 Oceania Cup tournament in Noumea, but the ASF withdrew at the last moment after a wrangle over payment of certain expenses. Earlier in the year Australia had also withdrawn from



Australia's leading lights for the three-match series against Scotland, from left: Billy Rice, Johnny Warren, Joe Venglos (coach), Jim Bayutti (manager), Jim Adam (assistant coach), Pat Hughes (captain).

Attila Abonyi (left) and Tommy McColl at Australia's training for the third match against Scotland.

the prestigious Merdeka Tournament in Kuala Lumpur, leaving a three-match series against visiting Israel as Australia's only remaining matches for 1971.

Billy Vojtek was back in Rale Rasic's favor for the Israel series, although Vojtek had declared after his row with Rasic during the 1970 World tour, that he would never again play for Australia.

Jimmy Mackay was back after injury, George Harris and Alan Ainslie were both given their first chance, and goalkeeper Roger Romanowicz was back in place of Jack Reilly. With both Manfred Schaefer and John Watkiss unavailable, veteran Frank Micic was recalled to play centre back after a four-year absence from the national team.

Johnny Warren was still out with his knee injury, and Israel missed its classy striker Giora Spiegel. Yet the Israelis had most of their stars with them – goalkeeper Visoker, defenders Bar, Bello, Rosen, Schum, Schwager, midfielders Spiegler and Kalderon, forwards Shaarabani and Faigenbaum.

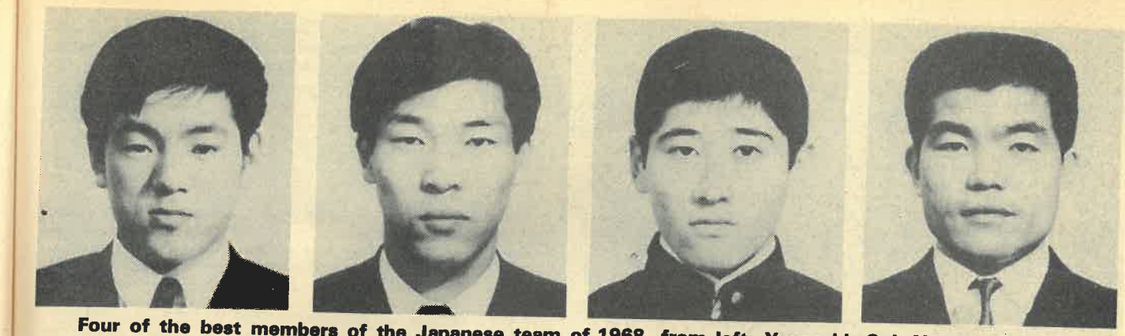
Going into the first of the three internationals the Socceroos were determined to get revenge for the way Israel had eliminated them from the 1970 World Cup and they were not intimidated by the Israelis' results in Mexico (0-0 v Italy, 1-1 v Sweden, 0-2 v Uruguay).

Motivated by an absolutely brilliant display by Vojtek in the first match in Brisbane (2-2), Australia played so well that Harry Davis, sports editor of the "Courier Mail," was moved to write: "A crowd of 8000 saw the type of football which, if a replay were possible next week, would draw 25,000 people just by word-of-mouth acclaim. The Australians played all over Israel, the country with World Cup experience. The amazingly fit young Australian side outpaced and outmanoeuvred the visitors in all departments. Australia had its share of bad luck, rather than bad play, which resulted in the test finishing at a 2-2 draw instead of a conservative 4-1 or 5-1 in Australia's favor. Australian soccer proved on Thursday night that we are in world class."

Max Tolson and Adrian Alston scored Australia's two goals that night, but Vojtek provided the inspiration for them. Vojtek was more subdued in the second match in Sydney, but Australia nevertheless managed a 1-0 victory due to a fierce, long-range, left-foot shot by Ainslie in the 12th minute. Yet Faigenbaum and Spiegler missed excellent chances and with Spiegler reigning supreme in midfield, Israel was generally the better team. FIFA coach Dettmar Cramr who watched the match, conceded as much when he said: "In Brisbane they (Australia) excelled. In Sydney in nervous Cup-tie atmosphere, their lack of international match-play told but they still won, so why be greedy and complain?"

But Australia's experimental team collapsed in the last match in Melbourne. Micic had a poor game, Alston's third appearance as, wait for it – left back – was disastrous, Romanowicz was shaky, Ray Baartz did nothing except score a 30-metre goal and Max Tolson suffered the indignity of an early shower. Israel, on the other hand, was quite magnificent. Kalderon was brilliant up front, Shaarabani scored two goals, Rosen was unbeatable in attack and Schum majestic in midfield. Even without skipper Spiegler, who had to fly back home before this match, Israel notched a 3-1 victory that should have been 4-1 or even 5-1.

The 1972 season was a treat for the soccer gourmet who was treated not only to Pele and Santos but also to Wolverhampton Wanderers and to a Dundee side that was extremely talented.

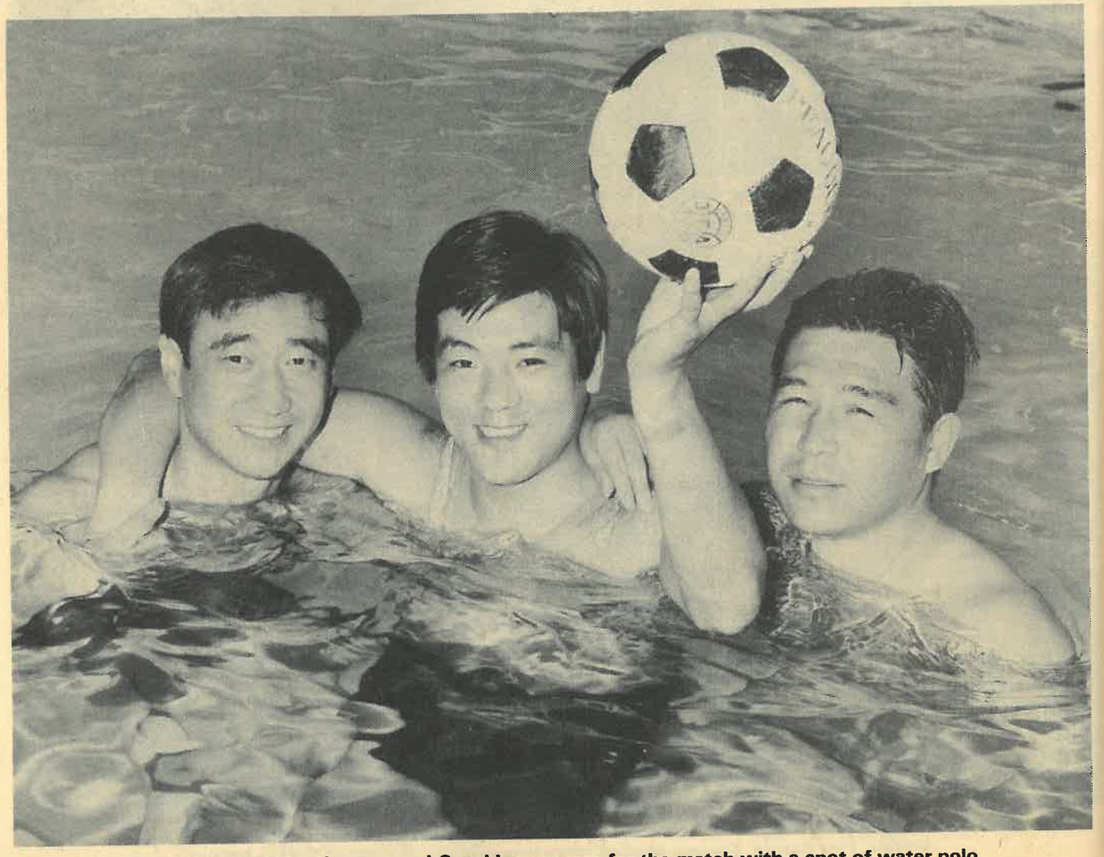


Four of the best members of the Japanese team of 1968, from left: Yaegashi, Ogi, Yamaguchi and Watanabe.

The teams line up for the 1968 international at Olympic Park – Japan . . .

. . . and Australia, from left: Ernie Ackerley, Les Scheinflug, George Keith, Manfred Schaefer, Billy Vojtek, Ray Baartz, Tommy McColl, Alan Westwater, Roy Blitz, Archie Blue.

Australian goalkeeper Ron Corry dives at the feet of Japan's Kuwahara to prevent him from shooting at goal. At right is Manfred Schaefer, Australia won the match 3-1 at Olympic Park.



From left: Yoshida, Kawano and Sueshige prepare for the match with a spot of water polo.

Dundee arrived in May, after having beaten an Auckland XI 7-0 in New Zealand. It was a typical result, for Dundee was to complete its Australian tour winning all seven matches and scoring 53 goals to six in the process.

Goalscorers for the tour were: 15. Jocky Scott; 11. Duncan; 5. Wallace, J. Wilson; 4. Gray; 3. B. Wilson; 2. Lambie, Houston, Johnston, Stewart, I. Scott.

The biggest win was 16-1 against Northern Rivers. Other results included 6-1 v NSW, 9-0 v Queensland, 9-1 v A.C.T. and 4-2 v Victoria.

They were remarkable results for a team that wasn't even tops in Scotland!

Doug Houston was an exceptional midfielder, Jocky Scott a magnificent striker and Dave Johnston a hell of a full back.

Australia met Dundee in Adelaide on May 17. It was a "home" game for the Socceroos' goalkeeper, Roger Romanowicz, but that very fact may have cost Australia the match. Romanowicz was obviously nervous in front of his home crowd and made two unforgivable mistakes that enabled Dundee to score its two goals. The mistakes ended Romanowicz's international career, for he was never again picked for Australia.

After only three minutes, Romanowicz punched a corner kick by Jimmy Wilson into his own net with both fists! In the 18th minute he came out to collect a centre but scooped the ball straight to Jocky Scott who obligingly tapped the ball into the net to make it 2-0.

Australia staged a magnificent fightback highlighted by a headed goal from Adrian Alston in the 27th minute. The ball had come via a Jimmy Mackay flick-on from a Billy Vojtek corner. Australia won the corner count 11-9 and forced Dundee's goalkeeper Mike Hewett to make many desperate saves.

The Socceroos' best player was St George's left back Bobby Hogg, making his debut in the green and gold. His promising international career was to be cut short by injury in 1973. John Watkiss was back alongside Peter Wilson in defence, as was Mackay in midfield.

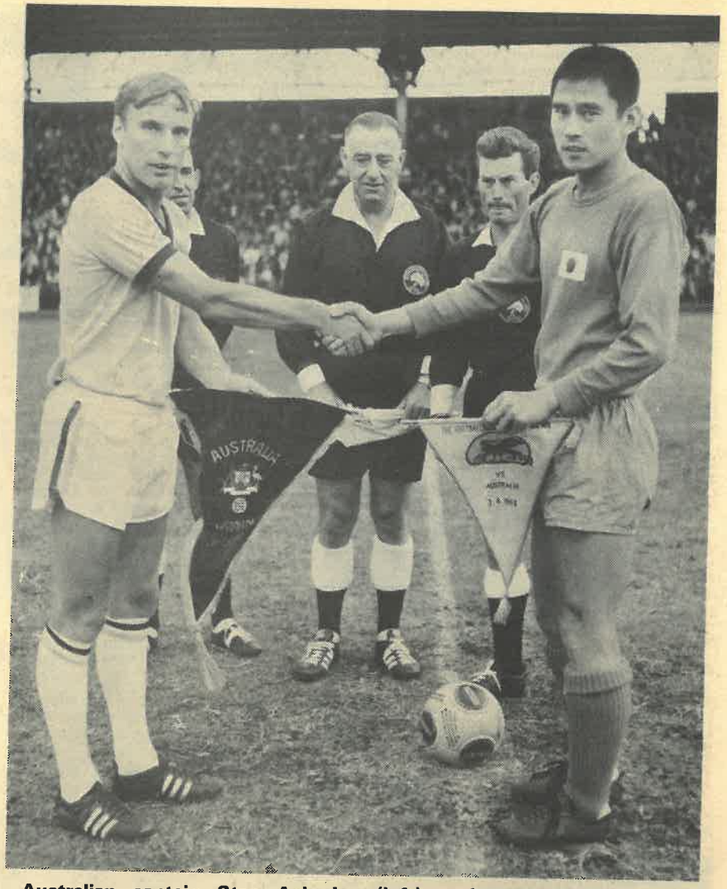
It had been an encouraging display, but no-one really expected Australia to do well against British giants Wolves who faced the Socceroos in the first of two matches on June 11 at Olympic Park, Melbourne. Manager Sammy Chung vowed the night before that Wolves were "out for blood", that this was not a leisure trip, and so Australia's 1-0 victory was of particular merit.

Ray Richards, Manfred Schaefer and George Harris were great. Of the Wolves, only midfielder Daniel Hegan was comparable, and the best Wolf of all, Frank Munro (now South Melbourne Hellas), was replaced at half time!

The winning goal came five minutes from the end. Centre back John McAlle tried a back-pass to goalkeeper Phil Parkes but Jimmy Rooney chased, caught the ball and hooked it to Attila Abonyi who rammed it into the open goal. Wolves had been beaten fairly and squarely. The great Derek Dougan had suffered a thrashing from Schaefer, Richards put on a memorable display at defensive midfield, Abonyi was back at his best and South Australian Bugsey Nyskohus had a promising debut at left back after replacing Hogg in the 55th minute.

But had the victory been only a fluke? Was Australia really good enough to beat an English First Division side on merit? The answer was to be supplied in Sydney the following day and it was a loud and clear "yes" – taking into account the home ground advantage, of course.

Baartz put Australia into the lead as early as the first minute and after McAlle had equalised six minutes later, Australia once again took the lead through Baartz. It was left to Hugh Curran to score Wolves equaliser in the 73rd minute before being sent off by referee Tony Boskovic for flattening Richards 10 minutes before the end. George Harris was again a resounding



Australian captain Stan Ackerley (left) exchanges pennants with Japanese leader Hisao Kami before their match in Melbourne.

success and Schaefer was so good that one wondered what triumphs Australia would have achieved had "The Tank" been available in previous matches.

This second match marked the start of Billy Rogers' brief international career. Terry Butler also had his first match for Australia, and Bugsey Nyskohus was in for his first full game. This then, was an experimental line-up, so the draw was as good as any victory.

It was only five days later that Australia played its memorable match against Pele and his club FC Santos. The Pele legend preceded the man in the publicity build-up for the big match . . . millionaire, scorer of 1000 goals, movie star, businessman, veteran of four world Cups, three of them won by his team, Brazil. The daily Press featured Pele on the front and back pages, television and radio preached about The King. This was the stuff that makes the turnstiles click. This was show biz.

But to Santos is was strictly business. Promoter Jorge Gutman had been promised that Santos' $US36,000 match fee would be paid in advance, at 10.30 am on the day of the match. However, no money was paid until 12.30 pm – and then it was only part of the fee. Santos demanded that the balance be paid before they left

John Duncan – second-highest scorer of Dundee's 1972 tour of Australia.

the hotel. What's more, they wanted to accept nothing but American dollars. The haggling resulted in Santos arriving late at the Sydney Sports Ground and the match starting at 3.40 instead of 3 pm. Bank officials, men from the Brazilian Consulate and ASF executives were involved in negotiations at the ground while the Santos players were getting their pre-match rubdown.

Pele was supposed to pick the best player from the curtain-raiser between two junior teams. The lucky boy would be flown to Brazil for three weeks' coaching. Because of the delay, Pele arrived too late to see enough of the curtain-raiser, so he relied on advice in choosing Rene Colusso ahead of Colusso's Marconi team mate Bertie Mariani. Colusso, who went on to represent Australia, now plays for Arezzo in the Italian Third Division. He is only in his early twenties — young enough to climb into the big-money world of the higher divisions.

The crowd of 31,755 at the Sports Ground stamped their feet and jeered in protest during the long delay. Finally the match got under way. The Santos team was, in 4-2-4 formation:

Cejas; Orlando Pereira, Vicente de Paulo, Filho, Ze Carlos (injured), sub. Torido 80th min.); Leao, Nene; Jader Goncalves, Alcindo de Freitas, Pele, Edu.

Coach Rasic instructed his Socceroos to use long balls to avoid the midfield where the Brazilians' greater skill would have won them the match. Key men in this tactic were goalkeepers Ron Corry and Jack Reilly who played half a match each. Their gigantic kicks-in went straight to the strikers, and always posed a threat to the Santos defence.

Ray Richards performed brilliantly the awesome task of taming the legendary Pele, who at 32, wasn't quite the player that his publicity had painted him to be. Richards played Pele hard but fairly. He fouled The King only once and apologised afterwards. "That man is one of the toughest opponents I have met," Pele told me through an interpreter after the match.

However, despite Richards' persistence, Pele managed to break away about five times to show some of the ball wizardry that had made

Three stars of the touring 1969 Greek team, from left: Dedes, Intzoglou and Christidis.

him the most acclaimed footballer of all time. In fact, it was a Pele free kick in the 60th minute that gave left winger Edu the opportunity to score Santos' second goal.

Of the 2-2 draw, Rasic said: "It was an incredible performance. In the second half we had most of the play and they dominated only the dead ball movements. Every one of the 11players performed faultlessly but Richards and Peter Wilson were especially brilliant."

The long-ball tactic was effective from the start. In only the fourth minute, Corry's long kick-in created a situation in which Santos goalkeeper Cejas had to smother successive shots by Ray Baartz, Adrian Alston and Jimmy Mackay.

Santos took the lead in the 32nd minute through full back Orlando Pereira but Jimmy Rooney equalised with his first international goal three minutes later.

Edu put Santos back into the lead after half time and this time it took five minutes before Baartz again equalised to cap a brilliant move involving Billy Rogers and Alston.

Later that year, in an interview with the Brazilian weekly "Manchete", Pele praised Australian soccer, saying he had been "stunned" by the standard, which was not far behind world class.

He said Australia should easily win its World Cup elimination series and that its soccer future was "tremendous."

Bulgaria sent a second-string squad on a three-match tour in February, 1973. Only two of the tourists — Georgi Vassiliev and Atanas Mikhailov were to play in the 1974 World Cup finals, where Bulgaria drew with Sweden and Uruguay and lost to Holland.

However, five other tourists had played in the 1970 World Cup finals in Mexico — Alexander Shalamanov, Zonio Dimitrov, Dimitar Yakimov, the brilliant winger Dinko Dermendjiev, and captain Dobromir Jetchev. In short, the Bulgarian squad that came to Australia was quite impressive and served as a strong sparring partner for the Socceroos, in preparation for their World Cup games later that year.

Bulgaria had pointed out all along that it would not send the full national team, but rather a league eleven, yet the ASF nevertheless ranked the three matches as full internationals.

A tour of Asia by the Socceroos had preceded their series against Bulgaria. Doug Utjesenovic and Branko Buljevic had established themselves as internationals on that tour, which also saw the return of Johnny Warren who had been out

A shot by Alan Anslie beats goalkeeper Vissoker to give Australia a 1-0 win over Israel in Sydney in 1971.

Yehudi Shaarabani heads one of his two goals past 'keeper Roger Romanowicz in Israel's 3-1 victory in Melbourne. At left are Jimmy Mackay and George Harris.

injured for so long. All three played against Bulgaria, although Warren managed only one match, in Adelaide.

The first match, scheduled for a Sunday in Sydney, had to be postponed until the Wednesday due to heavy rain. Goals by Vassiliev and Mikhailov gave Bulgaria a 2-0 lead at half time, but Australia fought back to draw 2-2, as it had done against Greece in Brisbane in 1969.

Buljevic, who had been unsighted in the first half, pulled himself together and started torturing the Bulgarian defence. He scored a magnificent 30-metre left-foot goal in the 56th minute and the Bulgarians didn't like it at all. Pugilistic clashes marred the second half but the Australians, unlike the visitors, were able to cope with them.

Australia's equalising goal came from the penalty spot in the 72nd minute. Max Tolson was fouled and took the spot kick himself. Peter Wilson was magnificent in defence and Tolson worked hard in attack. Midfielder Jeko Jelev and winger Georgi Vassiliev were Bulgaria's best.

The second match, in Adelaide, featured a rearranged Bulgarian side, including many of the younger players, like Bogomilov, Barzov and Dimitrov. These new men added speed and enthusiasm to the skill the team had shown in Sydney while Australia, in comparison, played one of its worst games ever. Only Ray Baartz preserved his reputation with a performance what made him the best player afield. What's more, he scored Australia's only goal. Dermendjiev and Mikhailov, who both came on as substitutes, were Bulgaria's stars. Bogomilov headed home the first goal in the 22nd minute and Pritargov made it 2-0 five minutes later, again with a header. Baartz's goal — from a 30-metre drive, came in the 29th minute and Mikhailov made it 3-1 nine minutes from the end.

The final game was played 48 hours later, at Melbourne's Olympic Park on Sunday evening, February 18. Vassiliev put on a dazzling display. Incredibly, he had a hand in all seven goals scored against Australia during the series.

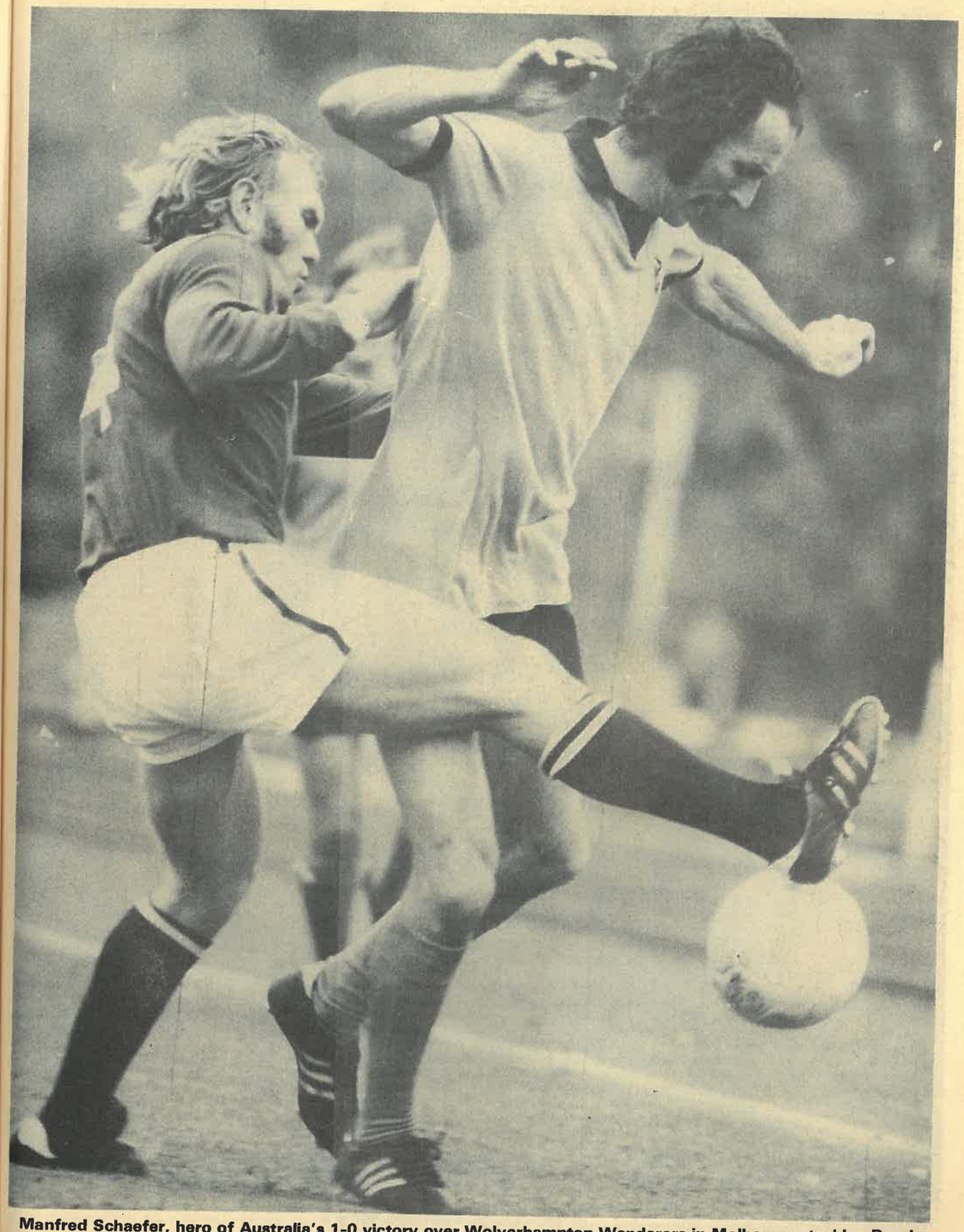
Australia's forwards — Ernie Campbell, Max Tolson and Branko Buljevic, were cut right out of the game by the Bulgarian defence. So badly were these three beaten that the 12,000-crowd booed them, especially Tolson. Bobby Hogg was also soundly beaten. He had the unenviable task of trying to mark Vassiliev. Jim Fraser made his Australian debut in this game, playing in place of Corry, and he could not be blamed for either goal. Buljevic lost much of his confidence when he was dispossessed, allowing Bulgaria to break away and score through Pritargov in the 22nd minute. The other goal came in the second half through Dermendjiev, giving Bulgaria a 2-0 win.

Australia had lost the series, but the tough workout did the Socceroos good. By the time of their next "friendly" series, against Ferencvaros of Hungary, they had qualified for the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany.

Mike Keen (left) and Peter Wilson (right) lead their teams out for the English FA v Australia match in Sydney in 1971.

Israeli captain Zvi Rosen.

Jimmy Rooney flies over England's Norm Piper in the match the English FA won 1-0 in Melbourne in 1971.



Manfred Schaefer, hero of Australia's 1-0 victory over Wolverhampton Wanderers in Melbourne, tackles Derek Dougan.

Wolves centre back Frank Munro and Australian goalkeeper Jack Reilly in an aerial duel during their match in Melbourne in 1972.

Leading the Ferencvaros team was coach Jeno Dalnoki who, in 1957, had been a player in the first Ferencvaros squad that toured Australia. Laszlo Balint had been voted Hungary's player of the year the previous December, but the "name" player in the squad was the great Florian Albert. Unfortunately for the fans, Albert did not appear in either of the games against the Socceroos. I saw him play for 15 minutes as substitute for Lajos Ku in Ferencvaros' 3-2 victory over Victoria and — dare one say it — he looked well past his prime. Florian Albert is of course remembered for his brilliance in the 1966 World Cup finals in England.

Australia lost its first match against Ferencvaros 1-2 in Adelaide, with Janos Mate scoring both goals and Ferenc Eipel conceding an own goal. The second match, in Sydney on February 10, was drawn 0-0. Wilson and Curran were best for Australia in Adelaide and Jimmy Rooney shone in Sydney. Jimmy Milisavljevic, of Footscray J.U.S.T., who was being groomed by Rasic as one of the goalkeepers for the World Cup finals, shared the goalkeeping with Jim Fraser and played very well.

The two-match series was used by Rasic to practice the 4-4-2 formation he would use in Germany. The defence — Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer and Curran — was sound. The midfield played well defensively but did not penetrate when going forward, and did not move up quickly enough to support the twin strikers who were thus made to look bad. Five men were tried in the two forward positions — Abonyi, Buljevic, Alston, Campbell and Tolson.

Ferencvaros was a major disappointment. The Hungarians, on the whole, showed little that the Socceroos could not do as well, if not better. Midfield general Istvan Juhasz was the only player to leave a lasting impression. Juhasz, with four goals, was the top scorer of Ferencvaros' five-match tour. Its other results were v Victoria 3-2, v Northern NSW 4-2 and v St George 3-1.

Australia was playing practice games galore against local teams as part of its preparation for the World Cup finals. When the chance to meet an Auckland XI presented itself, Rasic didn't complain, although generally speaking, he did not approve of Australia playing against second-rate teams from overseas. This game gave him the opportunity to try out three new players — Ray Pocock (Canterbury), Dave Harding (Pan Hellenic) and Peter Ollerton (APIA). Jack Reilly returned to goal after a year's absence and Mike Pye (Wilhelmina) and Ivo Rudic (Pan Hellenic) were also in the squad, although these two did not get a run. Harding, Ollerton, and Reilly were to be included in the squad that went to Germany.

But the match against Auckland was a disgrace! The Socceroos played, as one reporter wrote at the time: "Like a lot of old sheilas." The Kiwis weren't much better, although many of them had played or would play in World Cup games.

The Auckland team was: Jeram; Sibley, R. Armstrong, Turner, Houghton; Ashurst (Legg), Hope-Eadst (Taylor), Tindall; de Graaf, Thomas (Elrick), R. Armstrong.

From dwarfs to giants: Uruguay's visit followed that of Auckland. Winner of two World Cups and two Olympic tournaments, Uruguay stirred the imagination almost as much as Santos had in 1972. Uruguay had qualified for the World Cup finals and was to be drawn in the same group as Holland, Sweden and Bulgaria.

The Uruguayans came without their expatriate players, but their squad included six men who would play in the World Cup finals — Juan Masnik, Denis Milar, Fernando Morena, Walter Mantagazza, Alberto Cardaccio, Ruben Corbo and the infamous Luis Garisto.

Pele (right) with Socceroo coach Rale Rasic at the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany.

Morena came with the reputation of being the best centre forward in Uruguay and his league's top scorer of 1973. Masnik, the captain, had played in the 1970 World Cup and twice in the world club championship final, in 1961 with Penarol and in 1971 with Nacional.

The first of the two internationals was in front of 22,000 people at Olympic Park on April 25, 1974. Australia dominated for 70 minutes and had more scoring chances than the visitors. Outplayed on the field and outmanouvred by Rasic, the frustrated South Americans resorted to rough play. Two of their players were lucky not to be sent off by referee Peter Ramplay. It was the tight man-to-man play of the Australians that got on Uruguay's goat. The South Americans didn't have any room in which to play, and they hated it.

Col Curran was the best of the Socceroos. The overlapping left back had more shots at goal than most of the forwards! Ray Baartz and Jimmy Mackay were brilliant in midfield and Ray Richards was a tower of strength when he dropped back to replace injured Manfred Schaefer in the second half.

Pele with Marconi's Rene Colusso, the lad he chose for a coaching stint in Brazil.

Ray Baartz (right) congratulates Rene Colusso on having been selected by Pele as the best player of the curtain-raiser to the Australia v Santos match of 1972.

Three views of Pele, the great one.
LEFT: Rugged up and battered, he leaves the pitch during the 1966 World Cup finals in England.
ABOVE: Shadowed by Ray Richards in the 2-2 draw with Australia in Sydney in 1972.
BELOW: Pele and Germany's Uwe Seeler with the Australian flag at the 1974 World Cup finals.

It was inevitable that the hard-running Australian would tire but when they did, goalkeeper Jack Reilly carried them through. First he dived at Morena's feet, collecting the full force of his boot and the ball, then he rose high to tap a header by Julio Jimenez over the bar. Morena was cut out of the game, first by Schaefer and then by Richards, and started to show glimpses of his skill only during Australia's late decline.

Uruguay failed to score because it could not get close to goal. Australia did not score because it lacked the numbers in attack and because of some great defending by Walter Olivera, Juan Masnik and Mario Zoryes.

The return game at the Sydney Cricket Ground, in front of 25,708 people on April 27, still rates as Australia's most dramatic match at home. Appropriate to the occasion, Prime Minister Gough Whitlam was there to meet the players before the match. So was Phil Lynch of the Opposition.

The Socceroos again played it hard and tight and the Uruguayans got just as frustrated and even roughr than they had been in Melbourne. While Uruguay kicked, punched, and cursed, Australia played football — breathtakingly creative football. Attacks were started in defence and were maintained with accurate passes all the way up the field! Support for the man with the ball was always handy, there was constructive running off the ball, there was skill and imagination galore. Uruguay had its chance to take over the match but blew it when Morena missed an open goal from close range five minutes before half time.

There was not a single weakness in Australia's team. Rooney was the greatest of the Socceroos, closely followed by Mackay and Baartz in midfield and Wilson, Richards and Curran in defence. Baartz sent the crowd into raptures in the 59th minute by shooting Australia into the lead. He trapped a pass from Rooney who had beaten two opponents, steadied and smashed the ball into the top of the net.

From that point, Baartz was a marked man. In a scrimmage 15 minutes later, Garisto floored

Dobromir Jetchev, captain of Bulgaria which won its three-match series against the Socceroos in 1973.

Ray Baartz wins a header against a Japanese opponent in an international at Olympic Park in 1968.

Career chopped short

Ray Baartz was forced out of soccer at the age of only 27 by a blow struck by Luis Garisto during Australia's 2-0 victory against Uruguay at the Sydney Cricket Ground on April 27, 1974.

Coach Rale Rasic claimed afterwards Garisto had used a "karate chop."

Garisto was sent off over the incident, in the 76th minute, when Australia led 1-0 but Baartz did not feel the full effect of the blow until after the game.

He was rushed to the Royal North Shore Hospital where he lay, partly paralysed, an artery in his neck ruptured. The artery later haemorrhaged, causing interference with the supply of blood to his brain.

Baartz had been one of the key players in Australia's qualifying series for the 1974 World Cup finals. The injury meant he could not play in those finals. In fact, his soccer career was over!

But at least he was able to experience the thrill of being part of the greatest sports event outside the Olympic Games, for the Australian Soccer Federation paid Baart'z fare and accommodation as part of the touring party.

Born on March 6, 1947, in Newcastle, Ray Baartz first caught the eye of talent scouts in 1963 with some superb displays in Northern NSW's under 18 team in the Australian youth championships. A few weeks later the rugged Adamstown youngster left for England to become an apprentice with Manchester United. After two years under Matt Busby and alongside such greats as Bobby Charlton, Nobby Stiles and Denis Law, homesickness caused Baartz to return to Australia. He was immediately snapped up by Hakoah-Easts and four months later made his debut for Australia against Scotland, and scored the only Australian goal in the three-match series.

His left-foot shot was reputed to be the most powerful in the country, his speed acceleration, vision and balance made him the complete player — equally as effective in midfield as in attack.

He was on Australia's unbeaten Asian tour of 1967, he was a vital member of the 1969 World Cup team and of course a key midfielder in the 1973 World Cup side.

Baartz left Sydney in late 1974 to return to Newcastle where he now runs a highly successful sports store.

In 1977 he was a prime mover in the formation of a club to represent Newcastle in the Philips League. The club was to be called Newcastle KB United.

Baartz was on the board and was also team manager. In 1978 Newcastle was the best-supported club in Australia.

Baartz with a vicious punch which Rasic described afterwards as a karate chop. Baartz lay there semi-conscious but recovered to continue playing. Twelve hours after the match Baartz felt the full effect of that punch. He was admitted to hospital, partly paralysed, with an injury that was later to clear up, but that ended his soccer career. Garisto, subject of a $200,000 transfer a few months earlier, was sent off the field by referee Don Campbell, but only after a melodramatic performance by the Uruguayans. They gesticulated, they argued, they screamed and yelled and during the hold-up, other players formed a huddle and split open the lip of Morena, claiming immediately that one of the Australians had done it and that the culprit should also be sent off.

When play resumed, Morena slammed the ball into the net after having used both hands to bring it down. Campbell disallowed the goal, which whipped the Uruguayans into an even greater frenzy.

Then came the most remarkable goal Australia has scored in an international match.

Desperate to score, every Uruguayan except goalkeeper Gustavo Fernandez, pushed up into the Australian half. Ray Baartz, who had dropped right back, was on hand to make a wild clearance that dropped at the feet of unmarked Peter Ollerton, just inside his own half. Ollerton set off towards goal, with only Fernandez far, far in front of him. Fernandez could wait for Ollerton to arrive, or go out to meet him. He chose the latter and the crowd was treated to the bizarre sight of Ollerton dribbling around Fernandez a good 40 metres from goal, running the rest of the distance and slipping the ball into the net.

The two Uruguayan line-ups were:

In Melbourne: Santos; Gonzales, Olivera (inj. sub. de Simone half time), Masnik, Zoryes; Milar (Mantagazza 62nd), Cardaccio, Silva; Jimenez, Morena, Corbo.

Four Uruguayans at a Press conference before their match against Australia in Sydney. Clockwise from top: Denis Milar, Walter Olivera, Gustavo de Simone and Julio Jimenez.

In Sydney: Fernandez; Gonzales, de Simone, Garisto (sent off 76th), Zoryes (inj. sub. Silva 88th); Cardaccio, Mantagazza, Gomez; Jimenez, Morena, Corbo.

This was Australia's last appearance at home before the World Cup finals.

A new era, under new coaches, started in 1975 after the finals.

The visit by Kaz Deyna's team, Legia Warsaw in February, 1975, gave local fans their first chance to see the post-World Cup Socceroos. Rale Rasic was gone now, and Eric Worthington was in temporary charge.

Australia drew 2-2 in Sydney and lost 1-2 in Brisbane, both encouraging results. Worthington was pleased with the Socceroos, saying they had performed much better than he had expected them to. He was pleased with Col Bennett, the successor to Manfred Schaefer who had retired, but said Bennett had tended to panic in the Brisbane match. Gary Manuel, Worthington said, needed to develop greater fitness, and Buljevic needed to work harder when his side did not have the ball.

Of the newcomers in the squad, Worthington expected big things of Joe Palinkas, Fausto Tarquinio and Peter Stone, although none of them got a run against Legia. Of these three, only Stone was to become a senior Socceroo.

The Polish fans must have been a little disappointed with Legia's tour. Deyna was never seen at his best and the great Robert Gadocha didn't make the trip. He was back home, trying to get a transfer to France.

Best of the tourists were midfielder Stefan Bialas, striker Wladyslaw Dabrowski and skipper Leslaw Cmikiewicz who played as sweeper. Dabrowski scored both goals in Sydney and shared the Brisbane haul with Bialas.

Others who played over the two-match series were Mowlik, Topolski, Pieszko, Tuminski, Cypka, Jagiello, Kwapisz, Nowak, Krajewski.

Legia's coach Jaroslav Vejvoda was surprised that there were no South Australians in the Australian team, for South Australia had beaten Legia 2-1 in Adelaide, with goals by John Nyskohus and John Perin. Vejvoda marvelled at the pace of the South Australian team and the way it attacked and defended with nine men. He though goalkeeper Todd Clarke and Perin were better than the men who filled their positions in the national team.

Clarke was included in the Australian under 23 squad that went to Indonesia in June. That squad also included David Jones, Gary Byrne, Agenor Muniz, Gary Marocchi, John Nyskohus, Duncan Cummings, Gary Cole and Henry Kolecki who were all to graduate to the full national team later. While this young troupe was touring, the older Socceroos, under their new coach Tony Boggi, prepared to meet Glasgow Rangers.

Rangers fared badly on their way to Sydney, escaping with a lucky 2-2 draw with Canterbury in New Zealand and losing 1-2 to Western Australia. But no amount of mediocre results could dim the shine of the Superscots. Fanatic fans from Glasgow drooled over such names as Colin Stein, capped 14 times for Scotland; Derek Parlane, leading scorer that season with 20 goals; John Greig, capped 43 times, arguable Rangers' greatest captain ever; Tom Forsyth, another international, who had come from Motherwell; Tommy McLean whose brothers Willie and Jim were managers of Motherwell and Dundee United respectively. And there was the manager, Jock Wallace, a man who accepted nothing but the best from his players. When a young player once complained about Wallace's fierce training methods, Wallace yelled: "Listen, son, when you're feeling tired, the opposition will be half dead".

Publicity about Rangers' game established a sense of occasion. The fans responded appropriately. Almost 32,000 of them turned up for the first match against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground on June 8, 1975. The many Rangers fans among them left disappointed — but not as diappointed as their fellows in Brisbane were to feel three days later.

Rangers had only two clear scoring chances in Sydney but in true professional manner Derek Parlane scored from both in the 40th and 67th minutes. Australia had seven clear chances but scored only when Dave Harding converted a penalty after Colin Jackson had fouled Ernie Campbell eight minutes from the end. Australia's performance was a courageous one as it played with many handicaps. Skipper Peter Wilson was thrown into the fray after only two club games with Western Suburbs following a long lay-off due to injury. Jimmy Mackay had withdrawn from the side due to business commitments in Melbourne and his replacement, Harding, had a quiet game. Jimmy Rooney was also inconspicuous until late in the match. Ernie Campbell was not as good as he can be and there was still doubt about the affectiveness of Col Bennett as a replacement for "iron man" Manfred Schaefer. However, Bennett came through this test well, drawing praise from Schaefer himself. "I thought Wilson was more nervous than Bennett", said Schaefer. "The boy certainly justified his selection." Ray Richards, the man of the long throw, said: "Rangers aren't a good side. They capitalised on their opportunities, that's all."

Coach Tony Boggi said: "We will beat them in the return match in Brisbane on Wednesday and Victoria (which Boggi also coached) will do well against them at Olympic Park on Sunday." Boggi was to be proved right on the first count but wrong on the second. Rangers thrashed Victoria 5-1 in Melbourne with goals by McKean (2), Johnstone, Stein and Parlane, but lost to Australia 0-1 in Brisbane.

Striker Peter Ollerton and left back Harry Williams, who had been the two stars in Sydney, were also among the best players in Brisbane, where Peter Wilson, Jimmy Rooney and Ernie Campbell also shone.

Ollerton scored the winning goal in Brisbane in the ninth minute. Mike Micevski's short corner on the right was swept across the penalty area by Campbell to Richards who calmly relayed it to Ollerton who scored from six metres. Ollerton would have scored a hat-trick with a little more luck. In Sydney, goalkeeper Peter McCloy had foiled Ollerton so often. In Brisbane he was stopped by the professional fouls of Jackson and Greig.

ASF president Sir Arthur George was moved to describe the performance as "the best ever display by the Australian team".

Apart from having achieved a victory even more significant than the one against Wolves, Australia had found players with the qualities necessary for the World Cup campaign ahead. Williams, who had obviously benefited from his long "apprenticeship" with the Socceroos, was now the best possible pick for left back. Ollerton was a big, strong, aggressive central striker who would hold his place through most of the difficult matches to come and Bennett had fitted well into the centre of the defence.

But the stocks of these players and all the rest were to take a serious downturn later in the month against Manchester United which had just won the English Second Division championship.

United, seven times champion of the First Division, twice champion of Second Division, three times winner of the FA Cup, and winner of the European Cup in 1967-68, was managed at the time by Tommy Dockerty and numbered among its players goalkeeper Alex Stepney, full back Alex Forsyth, midfielder Martin Buchan, centre back Jim Holton, forward Sammy McIlroy, midfielder Lou Macari and forward Stuart Pearson.

Juan Masnik of Uruguay leaps high to clear the ball under pressure from Australia's Peter Wilson (No.3) and Gary Manuel (No.10) in their scoreless draw in Melbourne in 1974.

These stars of England's most popular club made short work of the tired Socceroos who were playing in their third international in 11 days. Australia's 0-4 loss was its biggest since November, 1975, when it crashed 1-6 to North Korea in their World Cup qualifying match.

United was fast, young, imaginative and lethal in front of goal. It was a great team, which made Rangers look second-rate by comparison. It was a shame only about 12,700 Sydney fans braved the cold night to watch this match. Lou Macari made it 1-0 after 27 minutes and McIlroy added a second before half time. Gerry Daly and Stuart Pearson completed the scoring against the Socceroos, whose only noteworthy players on the night were Williams and Rooney.

Col Curran shows all his vigor and determination in robbing this Uruguayan player of the ball.

Best in the nation?

During the height of the euphoria surrounding Australia qualification for the 1974 World Cup coach Rale Rasic told me he regarded his left back, Col Curran, as the best footballer in the nation.

Full backs are rarely paid such a compliment, but the way Curran was playing at the time, Rasic wasn't far wrong.

Like another Newcastle product, Ray Baartz, Curran had a spell with Manchester United, playing in that club's 'A' Youth team in 1964/65, alongside Brian Kidd and Francis Burns who were to become headliners.

Curran emerged from the West Wallsend juniors and made his mark with Adamstown as a senior. He represented Northern NSW against AS Roma, Manchester United, Manchester City, Romania B and Slovan Bratislava before he was picked for Australia's 1970 world tour.

It was on that tour that he and John Roche of Marconi established themselves as the replacement full backs for George Keith and Stan Ackerley and it came as no surprise that Marconi bought him for an agreed $7000 shortly after his return from overseas.

But after Marconi had paid the first $2000 instalment for him, Curran developed a hernia which required an operation and a long lay-off from soccer.

He returned to Adamstown on a six-month contract and then joined Western Suburbs. At the end of 1977 a committee that included Ray Baartz was finalising plans to enter a new Newcastle club in the Philips League the following season, and Curran was persuaded to return home to the north. Predictably, he was one of Newcastle's best players of 1978.

After playing so well in the qualifying games, Curran almost missed the 1974 World Cup finals due to an injury sustained in Indonesia on the way to Germany. But with the grit that is so typical of Newcastle - bred players, Curran worked day and night on exercising the injured leg, and was fit to play by the time of the first match in Hamburg.

Curran played against Legia Warsaw in early 1975 but the left back position then became the province of first George Harris and then Harry Williams. However, when Williams was unable to travel overseas for the latter stages of the 1977 World Cup series, Curran was recalled to play against Kuwait twice, South Korea, Hong Kong and Iran, as well as Singapore in a friendly match.

And so Australia had, in a space of 11 days, played twice against some of the best players in Scotland (Rangers) and once against some of the finest in England (United). The line-ups, for the record, were:

Glasgow Rangers (June 6, Sydney): McCloy; Greig, Jackson, Johnstone, Miller; Stein, R. McKean, Young; T. McKean, Parlane, Fyfe.

Glasgow Rangers (June 11, Brisbane): McCloy; Miller, Jackson, Johnstone (Henderson), Greig; R. McKean, Stein, Young; McLean, Parlane, Fyfe.

Manchester United (June 18, Sydney): Stepney; Forsyth, Holton, Buchan, Houston; Greenhoff (Loughnane), McIlroy, Macari; Coppell, Pearson, Daly.

Attila Abonyi, who played neither against Rangers nor against United, was given a special honor by Tommy Dockerty when he was asked to play for United as a guest against Queensland. The invitation resulted from a foot tennis exhibition match between United and Australian players. Dockerty was so impressed by Abonyi's skills that he invited him to come along to Queensland. Of course Abonyi scored one of the goals in United's 3-0 victory, the other two coming from Daly and Forsyth.

Eric Worthington picked a group of young, promising players for Boggi to use against visiting "China" in August, and then left with Sir Arthur George for England, to help interview candidates for the national coaching job. Todd Clarke, Agenor Muniz, Gary Byrne, Rene Colusso, Murray Barnes and Duncan Cummings were among the young players given to Boggi to use.

We were told in the lead-up to the match that almost 10 million Chinese now played soccer and that in the preceding year, Chinese teams had played 158 matches with 36 countries. What we weren't told, however, was that this was by no stretch of the imagination the Chinese national team. Who was to say that such a thing existed? After all, China was not a member of FIFA and therefore had no regular programme of "international" matches.

Of the young players tried out against China in Melbourne on August 6, only Muniz and Colusso left an immediate impression, and Cummings had the thrill of scoring the winning goal with his first kick after coming on as a substitute for Mike Micevski in the 60th minute.

The new team was not impressive, but neither was "China" which had lost 1-2 to New Zealand drawn 1-1 with Queensland and beaten Tasmania 2-1.

Boggi said before the match that Australia would play one of its rare, all-out attacking games against the Chinese. They were among the few opponents against whom the Socceroos could venture to do so, he added. But the match itself left the impression that Australia had a long way to go before it could field a team as good as the one that had played in the World Cup in Germany.

The young Australians bashed their heads against the Chinese defensive wall for 62 minutes before being rescued by the goal by Cummings who, at 17, is the youngest player to have appeared in the full Australian national team. Unfortunately for Cummings, he suffered injuries in club games later and was apparently forgotten by later Socceroo coaches.

Ray Richards, a spectator at the match, had an excuse for Australia's poor showing. "We must remember that this team got together for the first time only two days ago. Also it is not easy playing against a team as defensive as China was." Indeed, the Chinese played stereotyped soccer, defended with nine men and had no fire power. Australia should have tried to lure the defenders out and play down the wings. Instead they either shot from too far away, or tried to come through the middle with sloppy short passes which were invariably blocked.

Jack Reilly (left) confronts Colin Stein in a match between Victoria and Glasgow Rangers in 1975. Rangers won 5-1.

'82 his aim

It is Jack Reilly's ambition to keep goal for Australia in the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain. It does not worry him that he will then be 37 years old. After all, the great Lev Yashin was 40 when he toured here with Moscow Dynamo in 1970.

"A player must always be aiming for something," Reilly told interviewer Kyle Patterson in "Soccer Action" late in 1978. "Once you stop having ambitions, you might as well stop playing."

There's nothing Reilly loves more than a challenge. When South Melbourne Hellas imported Danish international John Hansen in early 1978. Reilly's challenge was to displace Hansen in the Hellas team. He succeeded and was one of Hellas' best players that season.

After an absence of almost three years Reilly's challenge in 1977 was to get back into the national team. Once again, he succeeded, even though he played in only one match — a 2-3 loss to Red Star Belgrade during the "World of Soccer" tournament. He was in the World Cup squad that went overseas at the end of the year but he did not play. Coach Jim Shoulder explained that Reilly was there due to his leadership qualities and his willingness to impart his great soccer knowledge to the others.

Reilly, a Bachelor of Law, is successful in business as well as soccer. He is manager of a credit company and has a professional interest in horseracing and real estate.

It was while he was attending university in Scotland that Reilly joined Hibernian as an 18-year-old. Manager of Hibernian at the time was none other than Jock Stein, now boss of Scotland, and Hibs' players of the era included the great Pat Stanton, later with Celtic.

After five years and 38 senior games with Hibs, Reilly went to the US where he had a stint with the Washington Whips. After 18 months he returned to Scotland and then it was off to Australia to join old friends Bobby Thomson and Bryan Thompson at Juventus (Vic). In his first season with Juventus, Reilly not only won the club's best and fairest player award, but was also chosen by the then State coach Rale Rasic to represent Victoria.

In 1970 Juventus won the State League championship, State League Cup and Dockerty Cup as well as beating NSW grand final winner Yugal. But after two and a half seasons at Juventus, he was sold for $6500 to St George Budapest, which had also recruited Rale Rasic as coach.

Due to business commitments in Melbourne, Reilly was unable to move to Sydney, and so he flew back and forth every weekend.

Saints won the championship but Reilly got sick of the travelling and so he joined Hakoah-St Kilda which paid $6000 for him.

His next move was to Fitzroy—Alexander where, in 1976, he replaced Tony Boggi as coach. "That was one of the worst decisions of my life," he remembers. "I couldn't return to being a player with the club after the happenings of the 1976 season, so I joined Hellas, along with my Fitzroy teammate Ian Gibson, at the start of the 1977 season."

Apart from Australia's match against West Germany in 1974, Reilly says his most memorable game was for Victoria against Moscow Dynamo in 1971. "Twelve months earlier, they had beaten us 7-1 and I had something to prove to myself," he says. "We drew the game 0-0 and I had one of those games where everything went right."

Reilly had great faith in national coach Jim Shoulder. "He was the best theoretical coach I've ever known," Reilly says. "The problem was he was given the job five years too soon. He had great knowledge but not enough experience."

Apart from having played 35 games for Australia — 15 of them full internationals — Reilly has also represented Victoria 20 times.

His latest challenge is holding the No. 1 goalkeeper's position at South Melbourne in the face of competition from 21-year-old Peter Laumets, bought from Preston Makedonia for $15,000, an Australian record price for a goalkeeper.

Whatever excuses were found for Australia's play, it was crystal clear that these Socceroos did not have players with the ability to take the initiative against inferior opponents and convert territorial advantage into goals with fluent play. No, Australia was much better at playing a tight defensive game and relying on breakaways for goals.

"China's" line-up against Australia was:
Li Fu-Sheng; Chang Chun-Sheng, Chen Yi-Ming, Yang An-Li, Tsao Kai-Chen, Liu Chih-Tsai, Chang Chun, Chang Tsung-Pen, Wang Hsia-Hoa, Li Chung-Tsai, Wang Chung-Chun.

The visit of Portugal's Benfica, twice winner of the European Cup, gave Boggi the chance to aim at the right balance between youth and experience in his last match as national coach, on August 20 in Sydney.

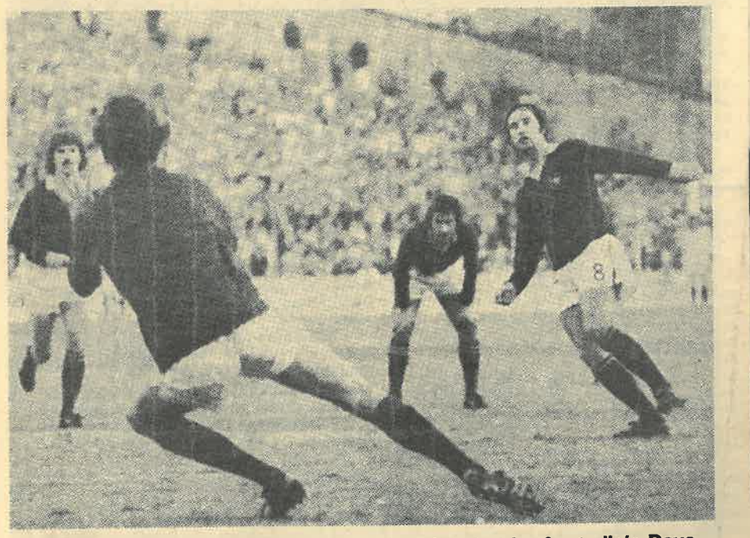
Benfica had excellent players in central striker Batista, midfielder Sheu Han, centre back Messias and midfielder Martins, but Boggi's Australia managed a 2-2 draw after leading at 1-0 and 2-1.

The reason was that Boggi recalled Branko Buljevic who had been out since February, and put young Cummings in the opening line-up, Sports writers had these two to thank for the opportunity to write such glowing praise for Australia after the match. What a pity Cummings was injured the following year. What criminality that Buljevic continued to be overlooked after he had declared himself unavailable for the series against the USSR late in 1975.

But back to Benfica . . . it was Buljevic, assisted by Cummings, who scored both goals in Australia's 2-2 draw. These two Victorians had the skill and flair to match the qualities of the artistic Portuguese and as a result, Australia as a team looked almost as good as the visitors, whose goals came from Nene and Batista.

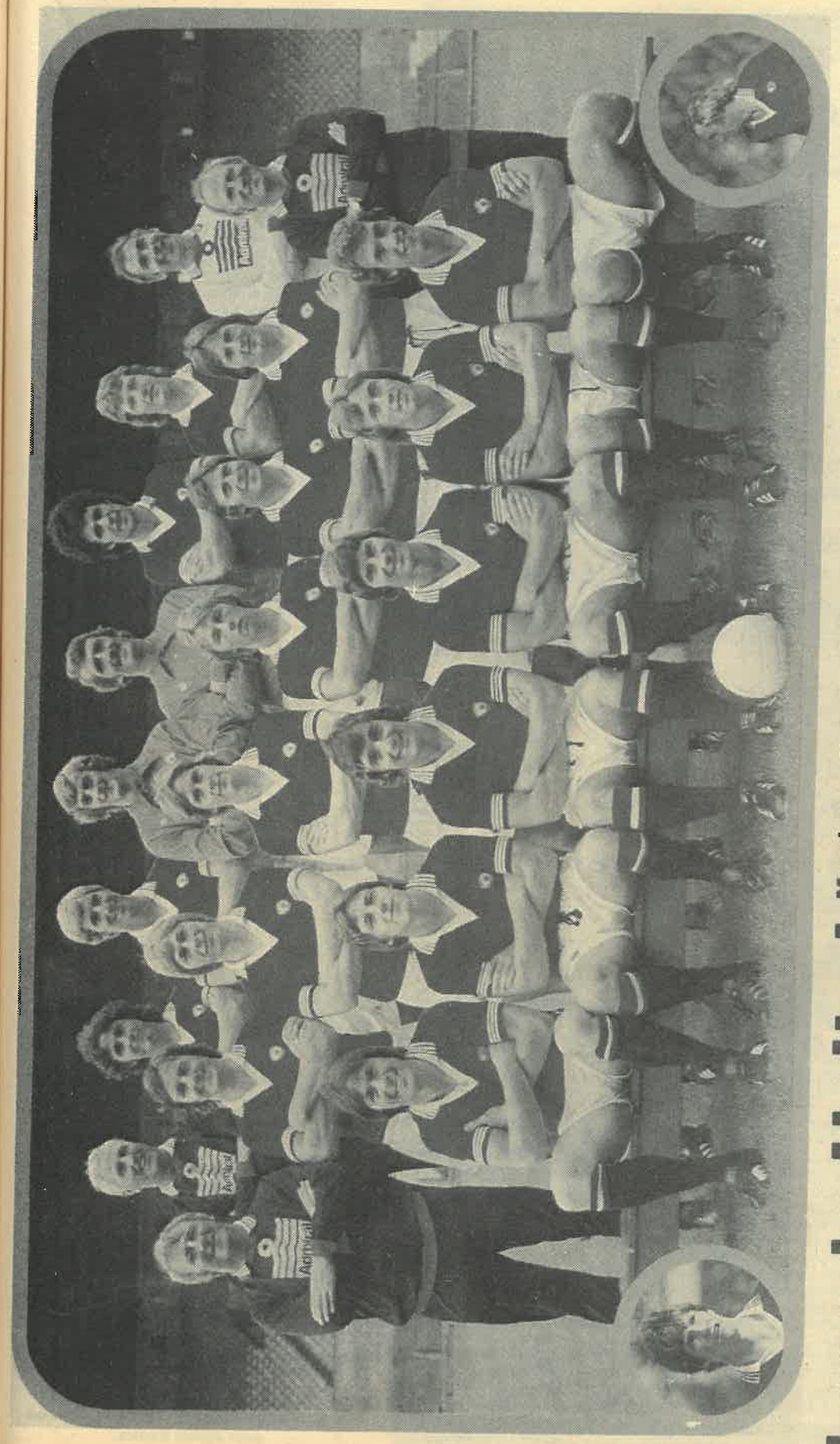
Benfica's line-up was: Bento; Artur, Messias, Eurico, Barros; Victor Martins, Toni, Sheu; Moinhos, Batista, Nene.

Goalkeeper Jimmy Milisavljevic saves a shot by Attila Abonyi in preparation for Australia's match against Uruguay in Melbourne.



Rangers goalkeeper McCloy parries a penalty shot by Australia's Dave Harding (right) who scored from the rebound in their match in Sydney.

Polish World Cup player Leslaw Cmikiewicz who played for Legia Warsaw against Australia in 1975.



Loss to United was biggest for ten years

Manchester United beat Australia 4-0 in Sydney in 1975. It was the Socceroos' biggest defeat for 10 years. The United squad of that era was, back row (L-R): Tommy CAVANAGH (trainer), Arthur ALBISTON, Colin WALDRON, Paddy ROCHE, Alex STEPHNEY, Steve PATTERSON, Jimmy NICHOLL, Laurie BROWN (physio). Middle row (L-R): Tommy DOCHERTY (manager), Alex FORSYTH, Brian GREENHOFF, Gerry DALY (later Derby Co.,) Ray STOREY, Tommy JACKSON, David McCREERY, Frank BLUNSTONE (assist. manager). Front row (L-R): Stuart PEARSON, Steve COPPELL, Lou MACARI, Martin BUCHAN (captain), Sammy McILROY, Stewart HOUSTON. Insets: Gordon HILL (left), Jimmy GREENHOFF (right).

Manfred Schaefer is used as a hoist by a Japanese player in an international match in Melbourne in 1968. At left is Alan Westwater.

'Be first, be strong'

A slippery, treacherous pitch at the Cong Hoa stadium in Saigon in 1967 gave Manfred Schaefer the chance to make his first appearance for Australia.

Victoria's Frank Micic of Footscray J.U.S.T. played at right half in that game against New Zealand but after a while it was evident that Micic could not handle the wet conditions.

So coach Joe Vlasits sent Schaefer into the fray. Built like a tank, Schaefer looked capable of handling any condition – and he did! He played a memorable match in the Saigon slush and remained a permanent fixture in the Australian team until he retired after the 1974 World Cup finals.

Rugged and indestructible, Schaefer was known as the "Iron Man" to the Australian public but when he played in Germany in the World Cup finals, he was referred to by the German Press as "The Milkman." The reason was that Schaefer had a milk round in Sydney.

Born in Germany, Schaefer came to Australia when he was 12 and started his soccer with the Blacktown juniors before joining St. George, the only club with which he played senior soccer.

A fitness fanatic, Schaefer dropped out of international soccer in 1971 because of work pressures and it was during the visit of the Israeli team that year that Micic was recalled to the national team – to fill in for the man who had taken his place four years earlier.

"Be first and be strong" – that was Schaefer's advice to all would-be soccer players and he certainly lived up to those words. Who will forget the way he crushed the Wolverhampton Wanderers attack in Melbourne, or the extraordinary game he had against Israel in Sydney in 1969, or what he did to a poor Iraki player in Melbourne in 1973?

The Wilson-Schaefer centre-back partnership was the most important single ingredient of the 1970-74 team. Before that it was the Schaefer-Marnoch partnership.

The highlight of Schaefer's career was playing against West Germany and marking the great Gerd Mueller in the 1974 World Cup finals. He retired from the field of play on his return but he was back as coach of St. George in 1976-77. After a series of ordinary results by Saints, Schaefer was sacked. The soccer public eagerly awaited his return with a different club.

Tony Boggi's reign as national coach had now ended. Brian Green arrived from England to take over for the USSR series, and Boggi was presented with an engraved gift by the ASF in appreciation.

Clarke, Muniz, Byrne and Barnes – who were all introduced against China – were given their chance against the USSR to develop as Socceroos. Green added Western Australian winger Ray Ilott who found himself out of his depth, and South Australian John Nyskohus who showed promise.

Although this wasn't the full USSR national squad, the ASF rated the five matches as full internationals, so it was strange that Muniz played without having first been naturalised and that another non-Australian, Rudolfo Gnavi, was given a run in Adelaide. Attila Abonyi dropped out because of business commitments.

The Russian squad included top-class players, there is no argument. However, it was not the A squad, for the A squad was based on Dynamo Kiev, and this one was based heavily on Dynamo Moscow. Nevertheless it was good to once more be treated to the skills of Gannadi Yevryuzhikhin and goalkeeper Vladmir Pilgui who had been here on previous tours by Dynamo Moscow.

The others in the touring squad included:

Nikoli Gontas, Sergei Nikulin, Aleksander Novikov, Valeri Semkov, Aleksander Makhovikov, Aleksei Petrushin, Oleg Dolmatov, Andrei Jakubik, Yuri Gavrilov, Anatoli Shebel, Mikhail Gershkovich (all Dynamo Moscow), Aleksander Damon (Dynamo Kiev), David Kapiani, Manucho Magaidze, Vladimir Gutzaev (Dynamo Tbilisi), Valentin Utkin (CSKA), Yuri Saukh (SKA Postov).

In Perth, in the first match of the November series, Australia was robbed of a win and had to be content with a scorless draw. In the 11th. minute Harry Williams finished off a superb free kick by Agenor Muniz with a 20-metre drive that gave goalkeeper Gontar no chance. However, referee Don Campbell ruled that another Aus-

Duncan Cummings – scored with his first kick for the Socceroos against China and set up two goals against Benfica.

Ferencvaros goalkeeper Geczi punches the ball away from the head of Johnny Warren during their match at the Sydney Sports Ground in 1974.

Ken Wagstaff (centre) gives instructions to his George Cross teammates in a Victorian State League match against Heidelberg-Alexander in 1976. Wagstaff, who became George Cross player-coach, toured Australia with the English FA team in 1971.

Florian Albert is airborn in a club match, trying to head for goal. Albert was in Australia with Ferencvaros in 1974.

tralian forward was in an offside position. Australia matched the USSR all over the field but lacked a Buljevic who could put the ball into the net.

The USSR made various team changes for the second match, in Adelaide, and easily beat the Socceroos 3-0 with goals by Shepal, Yevryuzhikhin and Gershkovich. The Russians monopolised the attack and had more than a dozen scoring chances in the first half alone. The Australians showed nothing at all until Barnes and Gnavi came on as substitutes. So strange were these two to the Adelaide fans that even the reporters got the names wrong, refering to them as "Rod" Gnavi and "Michael" Barnes.

Australia had the. chance of levelling the series in the third test in Melbourne but lost again, this time by the more respectable margin of 1-2. The match was noteworthy because it gave Jim Tansey his first run in the national team, in place of the injured Harry Williams.

The Socceroos showed verve, aggession and enthusiasm which won the support of the Melbourne crowd which had been traditionally hostile because it has always believed there should be more Victorians in the national team. Australia gave the fans a treat by going to the lead with a headed goal by Ernie Campbell in the 35th. minute, after two lead-up headers by Ollerton and Bennett. And the Socceroos stayed in front until 20 minutes from the end. Then the midfield collapsed. Byrne and Harding sank without trace and Muniz, who had been the star of the first half, also slipped badly. When Muniz faded, the Russian linkmen, especially Dolmatov, were allowed to do as they pleased. Tansey, who had done quite well until then, made the mistake that proved to be the beginning of the end for Australia. He lost the ball on the touchline and two quick passes later, Jakubik equalised. Five minutes later Yevryuzhikhin gave a short pass to Vladimir Kozlov who scored the winner.

In the curtain-raiser to this match, Australia "B" beat Victoria 3-1 with goals by Micevski, Henry Kolecki and Ilott.

The Australian B team was: Maher; Harris, Lister, Russell, B. Nyskohus; Rooney (Colusso), Gnavi, Kolecki. Ilott, Kosmina, Micevski. Best of the Victorians were Jim Kondarios and Mendo Ristovski of Footscray J.U.S.T. (Note that Jimmy Rooney had dropped to the B team during this period and that John Kosmina was on his way up.)

Rooney returned to the A team for the fourth Test in Brisbane, but Australia rarely looked like coming to grips with their faster and more skilful opponents although it had every chance to do so, as the Soviet Union was reduced to 10 men by the send-off of Jakubik in the 36th minute.

Jakubik had fouled Ernie Campbell with a tackle that referee Des Miles considered serious enough to warrant an early shower, but despite the advantage of an extra man for 54 minutes, Australia could not get the ball into the net.

The tour was being promoted by entrepeneur Michael Edgley, who was hoping for a good crowd for the next Test in Sydney. However, only about 6000 turned up and Edgley faced the prospect of an overall loss of $40,000.

Australia took a 2-0 lead in this match, with goals by Ollerton and Barnes in the 21st. and 26th. minutes, but lost 2-3 when Gershkovich, Jakubik and Gavrilov replied for the Soviets. Jim Tansey played well in this match, but the best on the field was Soviet forward Gershkovich.

Rale Rasic, who watched the match, spoke up about the Socceroos for the first time since he had relinquished the national coaching job. "It is good that we lost," he said. "It makes everyone face reality." Asked to compare Australia's style under new coach Brian Green with the Rasic style, he said: "What's the use? They wouldn't accept my comments. I see football a certain way, they see it differnrly."

To the suggestion that Green's "attacking" style may be more affective than his own, more cautious approach, Rasic said: "Don't be stupid. In the second half the Australians had nine men in their own penalty area as the Russians bombarded them.

"Look, if a team is strong enough, it attacks. If it is not strong enough, as was the case with Australia, it has to defend. That's the basic principle that governs how any team plays." He was not impressed that Australia had twice taken the lead. "Both goals came from dead ball movements," he said. "Australia did not have to work for them. The Russians were then forced to shift into a higher gear. The Russians had at least 15

Legia Warsaw's Bogden Kwapisz trains in preparation for a match against Australia in 1975.

The Socceroos line up at Olympic Park, waiting for the start of its 1975 match against the Soviet Union, from left: Gary Byrne, Doug Utjesenovic, Col Bennett, Todd Clarke, Peter Wilson.

Nothing pleased Branko Buljevic more than his two goals against Benfica in his last appearance for Australia in 1975. The match was in Sydney, which had always shown him such hostility.

I remember him being booed by the Sydney crowds during the 1973 World Cup qualifying tournament there. The Sydney fans had always been rather cool towards, out-of-towners in the national team. In Buljevic's case, they were downright hostile.

Buljevic's greatest attribute was, and still is, his great skill. In using this skill, as well as his natural football brain, he would sometimes lose the ball to an opponent. This was inevitable. Any forward who takes on his opponent is playing a percentage game, with the odds usually stacked against him. When he succeeds, however — and Buljevic succeeded quite often — he always creates havoc in the opposing

BRILLIANT BULJEVIC

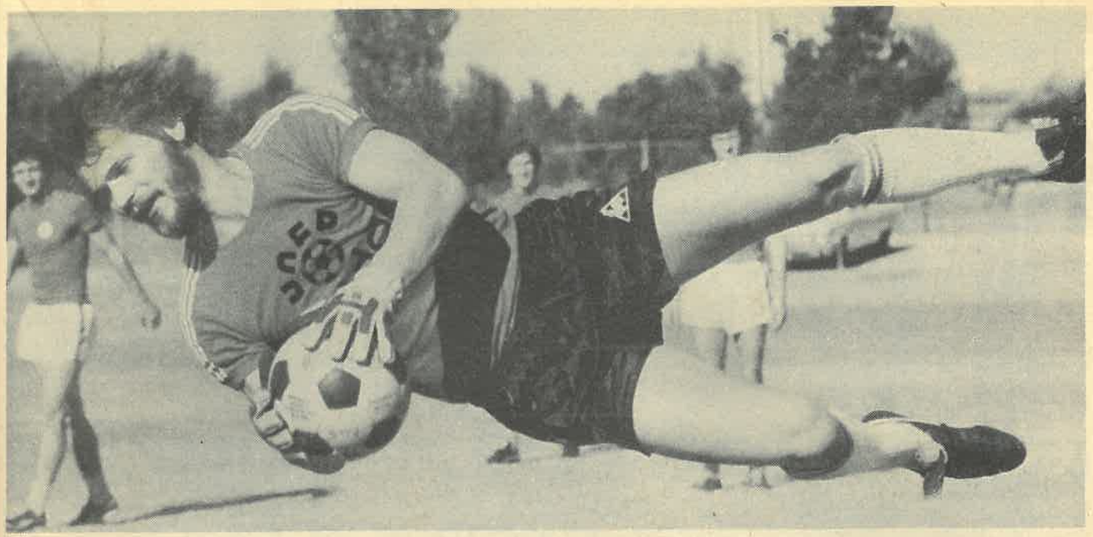
defence. Rasic encouraged Buljevic to use his skill and to take on his opponents. Whether or not the Sydney crowds were willing to acknowledge it, Buljevic played some phenomenal games — the best of them against East Germany in the 1974 World Cup finals.

He was top scorer of the 1972 Asian tour during which he was capped for the first time. After the World Cup his two-goal performance against Benfica in Sydney seemed to indicate that his best international days were yet to come. However, he withdrew from the six-match USSR series in late 1975 due to family commitments and was never given another chance at international level. It was the Socceroos who suffered most from his absence.

Buljevic played some senior games for OFK Belgrade in the Yugoslav First Division before coming to Australia to join Footscray J.U.S.T. in 1968. He scored 79 State League goals for J.U.S.T. before being sold to Fitzroy-Alexander in early 1977 for the then record transfer fee of $12,500. Adelaide City topped that record later the same year when it bought Agenor Muniz from Hakoah-Easts (Sydney City) for $15,000.

Buljevic, rated as one of Australia's all-time greats by most experts, played 22 matches for Victoria from 1970 to 1976 — more than anyone else in the present decade. He also scored the most goals for Victoria in that time, six. They were against the Italian Army, Glasgow Rangers, Legia Warsaw, Ferncvaros, Cruzeiro, and Dundee.

His other opponents included Moscow Dynamo, Manchester City, Werder Bremen, Kosice, Toyo Kogyo, and Santos, the team of the great Pele.



Yugoslav World Cup goalkeeper Enver Maric who played for Velez Mostar against Australia in 1976.

scoring chances. The most painful characteristic about the game, as far as Australia was concerned, was that the Russians were receiving the ball on the move and in the open, while the Australians were usually stationary when the ball came to them."

The USSR was now in an unbeatable position with only one of the six Tests remaining. The last of them was played in Newcastle, where Australia improved to draw 1-1, the goals coming from Ollerton and Gutzaev.

The improvement coincided with Jimmy Rooney's return to top form. However, the Socceroos' lack of finishing let them down once again. Allan Maher, given a game ahead of Todd Clarke, showed he was equally as good as the South Australian. Full back Utkin and midfielder Petrushin were the best of the Soviets.

Australia drew 2-2 with Velez Mostar of Yugoslavia in February, as Brien Green's reign drew steadily to a close.

The Velez line-up in front of 17,239 people in Sydney was: Maric; Mulahasanovic, Durasovic, Dubovina (Hodzic), Glavovac, Primorac, Okuka, Kvesic, Halilhodzic, Ledic, Vukoje.

The Socceroos fought back well after Marjan Kvesic had put Velez ahead by the 37th. minute, but there were faults in Australia's play, Bennett did not appear to be the right type of partner for Wilson in defence. A more constructive centre back appeared to be the answer. The midfield of Muniz, Rooney and Harding appeared adequate but in attack, Ollerton needed help from players more accomplished than Illott, Nyskohus or Barnes. Players like Abonyi or Billy Vojtek — men with skill and imagination — could easily have been brought back. Green himself conceded that he had problems. He said after the game he would have a "serious look around" for players who could strengthen his squad.

His first recruit was St George youngster Mark Jankovics who was given a run in Australia's 1-0 victory against New Zealand in Auckland in late February, 1976. The winning margin was slight, but Australia was much improved. Bennett was better, Ollerton and Barnes were dangerous up front and George Harris, back for one of his occasional internationals, was sound at left back. For the return match in Melbourne, Green replaced Jankovics with Abonyi, whose work commitments at the time enabled him to play only in home matches.

Murray Barnes was the top player in the Melbourne match. In fact he was so good that it

Antonio de Barros, one of the Benfica stars in the 2-2 draw with Australia in Sydney in 1975.

appeared the Hakoah youngster had finally developed into a man with the confidence required to be perhaps a World Cup player. Ollerton wasn't far behind him in Australia's 3-1 victory. Appropriately enough, the three goals were shared by the three front runners — Barnes, Ollerton and Abonyi — while New Zealand's came from Dave Taylor. This was one of the easiest matches Australia had played in years, yet even against such poor opponents, the Socceroos lacked the killer instinct needed for the World Cup campaign which would start the following year.

New Zealand's line-ups in the two-match, home-and-away series:

In Auckland: Jeram; Sibley, Houghton, Elrick, Park; Turner, Fleet, Taylor; Thomas, Campbell, Ormond.

In Melbourne: Jeram; Sibley, Houghton, Elrick, Park; Turner, Fleet, Taylor; Mulgrew, Thomas, Ormond.

That marked the end of Brian Green as national coach. Whatever plans he had for the Socceroos were never to be followed through, as he returned to England after being convicted of shoplifting (see separate story).

The ASF prepared a hectic schedule of matches for new national coach, Jim Shoulder, who took over for the game against Tottenham Hotspur in May, 1976. The Socceroos were to play also against Sunderland, Heart of Midlothian, Bologna, the Italian Army and Hong Kong at home before going on their tour of Asia and Europe at the end of 1976. There was certainly no lack of match practice in the lead-up to the 1977 World Cup qualifying games.

Spurs, the first opponent, featured England internationals Martin Chivers and Ralph Coates, Willie Young who later went to Arsenal, captain Steve Perryman and John Duncan who had scored 11 goals during the 1972 Australian tour of his former club, Dundee. What's more, Spurs' manager was former Arsenal and Irish international star Terry Neill who was to be appointed manager of Arsental the following year.

Australia attacked Spurs at every opportunity and its defence did reasonably well despite the absence of injured sweeper Peter Wilson. In his absence, Rooney was captain and Tansey played sweeper. A goal by Dave Harding gave Australia a 1-0 lead early but Ralph Coates equalised, and goals by Neighbour and Jones put Spurs 3-1 up before substitute John Nyskohus added a second for Australia a minute from the end. Atti Abonyi was the star of the match, creating openings and peppering shots which forced Naylor and Coates to clear off the line what would otherwise have been certain goals. Coach Shoulder was pleased with the performance. "I

The crack Polish team Legia Warsaw that played against Australia in 1975.

Barry Daines, goalkeeper of Tottenham Hotspur which beat Australia 3-2 in 1976.

really do have something to work with," he said."

The Spurs team was: Daines; Naylor, Stead, Pratt, Young, Osgood, Coates, Perryman, Chivers, Jones, Neighbour.

Sunderland, winner of the 1973 FA Cup, came to Australia as the English Second Division champion of 1975-76:

But there was little interest in the Sunderland team, and so only 8000 people turned up in Sydney and about 6500 in Melbourne.

Shoulder's concern with attacking play was as evident in the 3-4 result of the first match against Sunderland as it had been in the 2-3 result against Spurs. The Socceroos were scoring goals, sure, but they were conceding more than they were scoring. Against Sunderland in Sydney, Dave Harding put the 'Roos into the lead but a lapse in defence allowed Pop Robson to equalise 30 seconds later. Gary Rowell made it 2-1 for Sunderland but Australia rallied to hit the front again with goals by Harding and Abonyi. The goals by Robson and Roy Greenwood which gave Sunderland a 4-3 victory prompted coach Shoulder to work harder on his defence in the lead-up to the return game in Melbourne. As a result, Australia held Sunderland to a scoreless draw, with centre backs Col Bennett and Jim Tansey emerging as the best players. But with more emphasis on caution and less on numbers in attack, Australia did not break through for a goal — although John Nyskohus got darned close. It was at this stage of Shoulder's reign that the campaign for the return of Buljevic started. The attack definitely needed his creative flair.

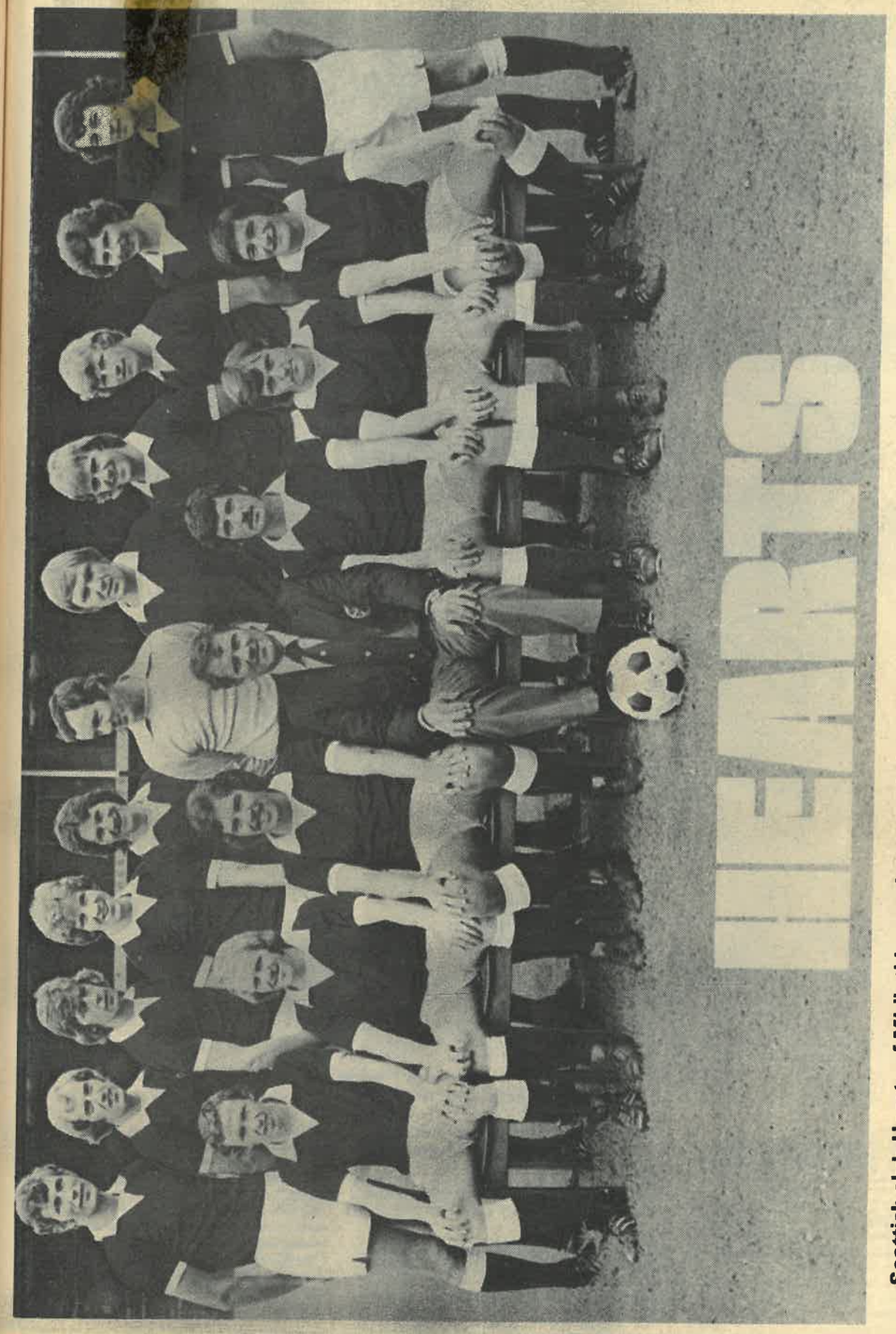
Sunderland was not impressive. It did nothing a top Australian team couldn't do, but it probably did it a bit faster.

The Sunderland line-ups in Sydney and Melbourne were:

In Sydney: Montgomery; Malone, Moncur, Clarke, Bolton; Rowell, Train, Robson; Kerr, Hughes, Greenwood.

In Melbourne: Montgomery; Malone, Ashurst, Moncur, Bolton; Henderson (inj. sub. Longhorn 25th), Train, Robson; Kerr, Hughes (Holden 70th), Greenwood.

Skipper Peter Wilson returned after injury to nurse 20-year-old Pan Hellenic defender Richie Bell along in his debut for Australia against Heart of Midlothian at the Sydney Sports Ground on June 2. Journalist Brian Mossop who covered the match for "Soccer Action", des-



Scottish club Hearts of Midlothian, on its second visit to Australia, lost 1-2 to the Socceroos in Sydney in 1976 The Hearts squad above is:
BACK ROW (left-to-right): John Gallacher, Jim Brown, Ralph Callachan (later Newcastle), John Hay, Sandy Burrell, Jim Cruickshank, Don Murray, Jim Jefferies, Dave Clunie, Roy Kay, Cammy Fraser.
FRONT ROW: Willie Gibson, Kenny Aird, Graham Shaw, John Hagart (manager), Drew Busby, Donald Park, Bob Prentice.

Ray Richards (left), mud splattered but as determined as ever, tackles Heidelberg's Ken Taylor in a Philips League match.

The Richards — Rasic feud

It came as a shock to Socceroo fans when Rale Rasic and Ray Richards started feuding bitterly in 1978. They had been great friends during their best years with the national team. Later, they had even been partners in a sports store in Sydney.

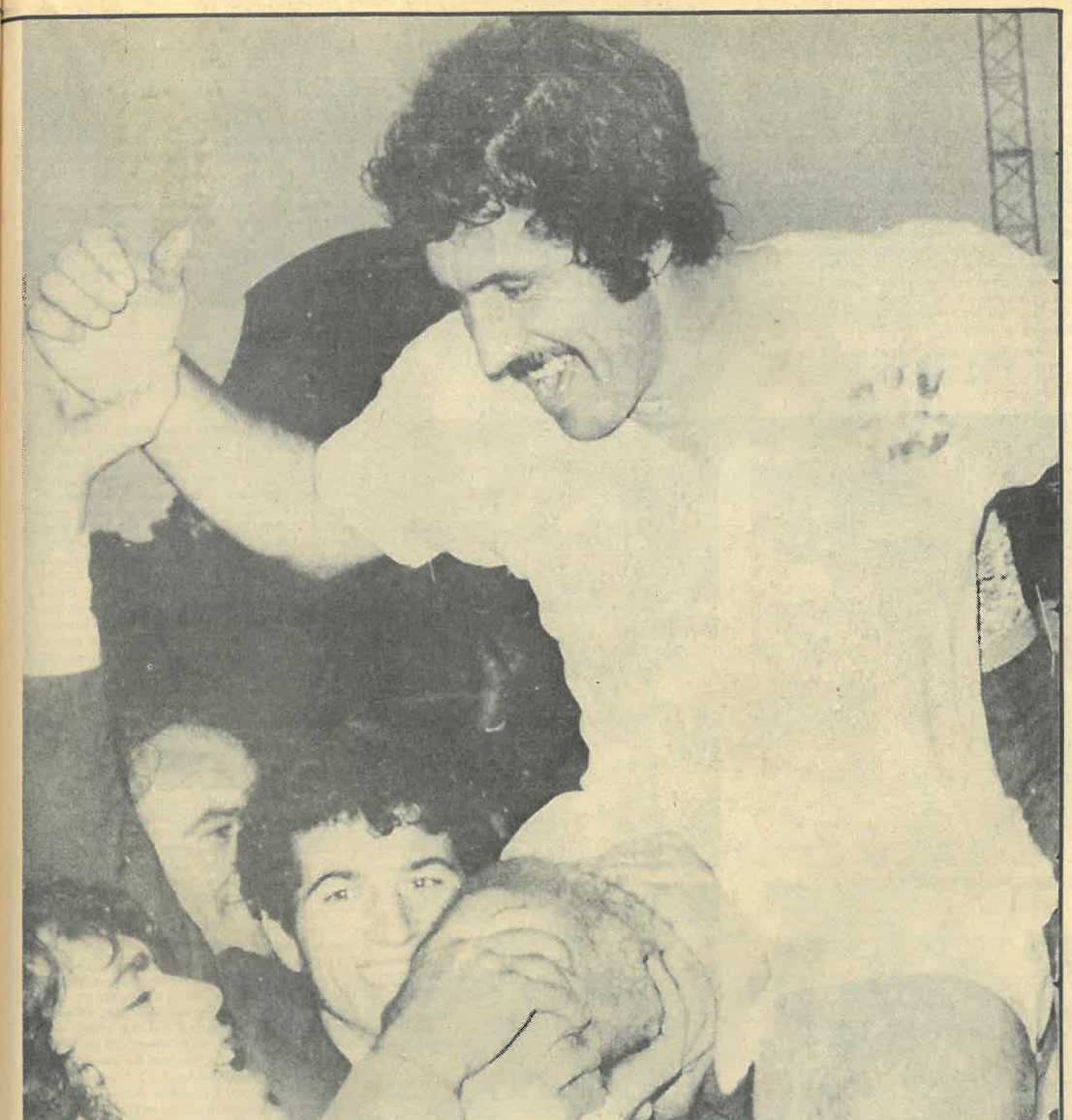
But the friendship did not appear as strong anymore after Rasic had replaced Richards as coach of Marconi in 1975. In 1978 open warfare broke out. Rasic's much-publicised defiance of the national team bosses in the Shame-Degney case acted as the catalyst.

Degney and Shame were supposed to miss Marconi's match against Footscray J.U.S.T. so that they would be fresh and fit for Australia's game against Greece in Sydney. But Rasic did use the two players against J.U.S.T., which angered Richards.

Richards did not play for Marconi for the rest of the season and spoke against Rasic in newspaper articles. A cold war developed between the two, and probably still rages.

But from 1970 to 1974 these two were integral parts of the most successful national team in Australia's history — Rasic as coach and Richards as the midfield destroyer.

Richards was and still is known as the man with the long



Jubilant supporters chair Ray Richards off the ground after their club Marconi had won the NSW grand final.

throw. His ability to hurl the ball from the touchline almost to the far post gave Australia a corner-kick situation every time the ball went out in the attacking zone. Crowds all over the world, but especially in Asia, marvelled at this remarkable ability.

Richards arrived in Australia in 1963 and settled in Queensland where he played centre forward with Latrobe and Hollandia. He represented Queensland from 1964 to 1968, including games against Everton and Moscow Torpedo, before moving to Sydney where he had a brief spell with Croatia where he was injured. After a lay-off he transferred to Marconi in 1969 and was picked for NSW the same year.

Richards played his first game for Australia as a substitute for Tommy McColl against New Zealand in the first match of the 1967 Asian tour. He played in four other tour matches and scored one goal in the 8-1 victory against Combined Services in Singapore.

Later he was a forgotten man until Rasic chose him to go on the 1970 World tour. It was on this tour that he established himself as an indispensible part of the national team.

One of the highlights of his career was marking the great Pele in Australia's 2-2 draw with Santos in Sydney in 1972. Richards rendered Pele harmless and after the game, Pele told me: "That man is one of the toughest defenders I have played against."

Another memorable experience was being sent off the field during Australia's 0-0 draw with Chile during the 1974 World Cup finals. The referee showed him the yellow card, then realised that he had shown it to him earlier, so he came back to advise Richards to leave the field. This he did, but not after most of the Socceroos had protested angrily.

Richards' last match for Australia was in its 0-4 loss to Manchester United in 1975. It was later obvious that the national team needed his strength in midfield, but coach Jim Shoulder resisted all moves to have Richards included.

cribed this Hearts side as "one of the poorest European teams yet to visit this country." Yet the Socceroos beat Hearts 2-1 only because of a brilliant disply by goalkeeper Allan Maher, and because Attila Abonyi was pulled back to play far deeper than in previous games, resulting in the 4-4-2 formation of old. This did not mean however, that Australia adopted a defensive stance, They fought hard to get the ball to strikers Murray Barnes and Peter Ollerton who displayed speed and skill in getting past men and creating opportunities for team mates. Ollerton figured in both of Australia's goals, scored by Agenor Muinz and Attila Abonyi before Kenny Aird intercepted a back-pass by Bell to score Hearts' consolation goal in the 72nd minute. The match presented coach Shoulder with only one problem. It was that George Harris seemed ill-suited for the left back position and should be tried at right back against the next opponent, Bologna of Italy.

Hearts' line-up against Australia was: Graham, Kay, Burrell, Jeffries, Gallacher, Murray, Callachan (Brown 80th), Busby (Prentice 45th), Gibson, Fraser, Shaw (Aird 45th).

Bologna, seven times champion of Italy and twice winner of the Italian Cup, was the first Italian club to visit Australia since AS Roma of 1966. Bologna's top player, Bellugi, did not make the trip because he was on national team duty, but the fans did get a look at Sergio Clerici, the Brazilian-born veteran of 450 Italian league games, who switched from Napoli in part-exchange for Guiseppe Savoldi in a deal worth $2 million. Bologna crushed Victoria 4-0 before taking on Australia and because of the size of that victory, the Socceroos weren't given a chance.

But Shoulder's men kept Bologna scoreless in both their matches, winning 3-0 in Adelaide and drawing 0-0 in Sydney — results that rank among the finest yet achieved by the national team. Bologna coach Cesarino Cervellati said after the two matches that Australia seemed to be on a par with some of the best teams in Europe. "We had not expected that," he said.

The Socceroos achieved their 3-0 victory in Adelaide without Jimmy Rooney, Doug Utjesenovic or Agenor Muniz and its 0-0 draw in Sydney without Peter Ollerton and Attila Abonyi.

One of the Socceroos' greatest achievements was beating Glasgow Rangers 1-0 in 1975. Four of the Rangers are pictured above, from top, left to right: Colin Jackson, Alex MacDonald, Davie Armour and Derek Pariane.

Still experimenting in his quest for the best players to take on the coming world tour, Shoulder used the two games against Bologna to try out Gary Byrne and Henry Kolecki in midfield, John Kosmina and Peter Stone in attack and George Harris at right back instead of left back. He also brought back Harry Williams and gave Mark Jankovics another opportunity to prove himself. In his column in "Soccer Action", Shoulder had written he would try out both Williams and Branko Buljevic. He kept his word only in regards to Williams.

Richie Bell, who scored the first goal in Adelaide, was among the finest Socceroos in this two-match-series. The other two goals in Adelaide came from Dave Harding and Attila Abonyi. Soulder said in Sydney after the scoreless draw: "The squad is almost decided."

Bologna's line-ups in Adelaide and Sydney were:

In Adelaide: Adani, Valmassoi, Correnti, Roversi, Cresci, Nanni, Travisanello, (Grop), Massimelli, Mastalli (Biancardi), Clerici, Bertuzzo.

In Sydney: Mancini (Adani 26th min), Valmassoi, Cresci, Correnti, Roversi, Nanni, Mastalli, Biancardi, Clerici, Massimelli, Grop.

Shoulder wrote after this series: "I want to get the blend right, irrespective of the personnel. The blend in the Sydney game against Bologna was not as good as the blend we had in Adelaide. We had variety in Adelaide, whereas in Sydney, we had too many players who were similar in style. To the average spectator Mark Jankovics and John Nyskohus, and indeed Peter Ollerton, have not done all that well in most of the games. Yet they have always carried out the instructions I gave them, so they should not be criticised. In other words, this team will not comprise only those individuals who can sparkle. It's the same as many other national teams. There's no way I will deviate from my overall team concept. There's no way I will sacrifice 10 players for one.

"One of the main features of our squad is that it is flexible. Various players have been able to be slotted into positions that were previously considered the exclusive domain of a particular individual. Jim Tansey, for example, has settled down after a somewhat shaky start and I've got no reservations now about using him at left back or even in Peter Wilson's position when the need arises.

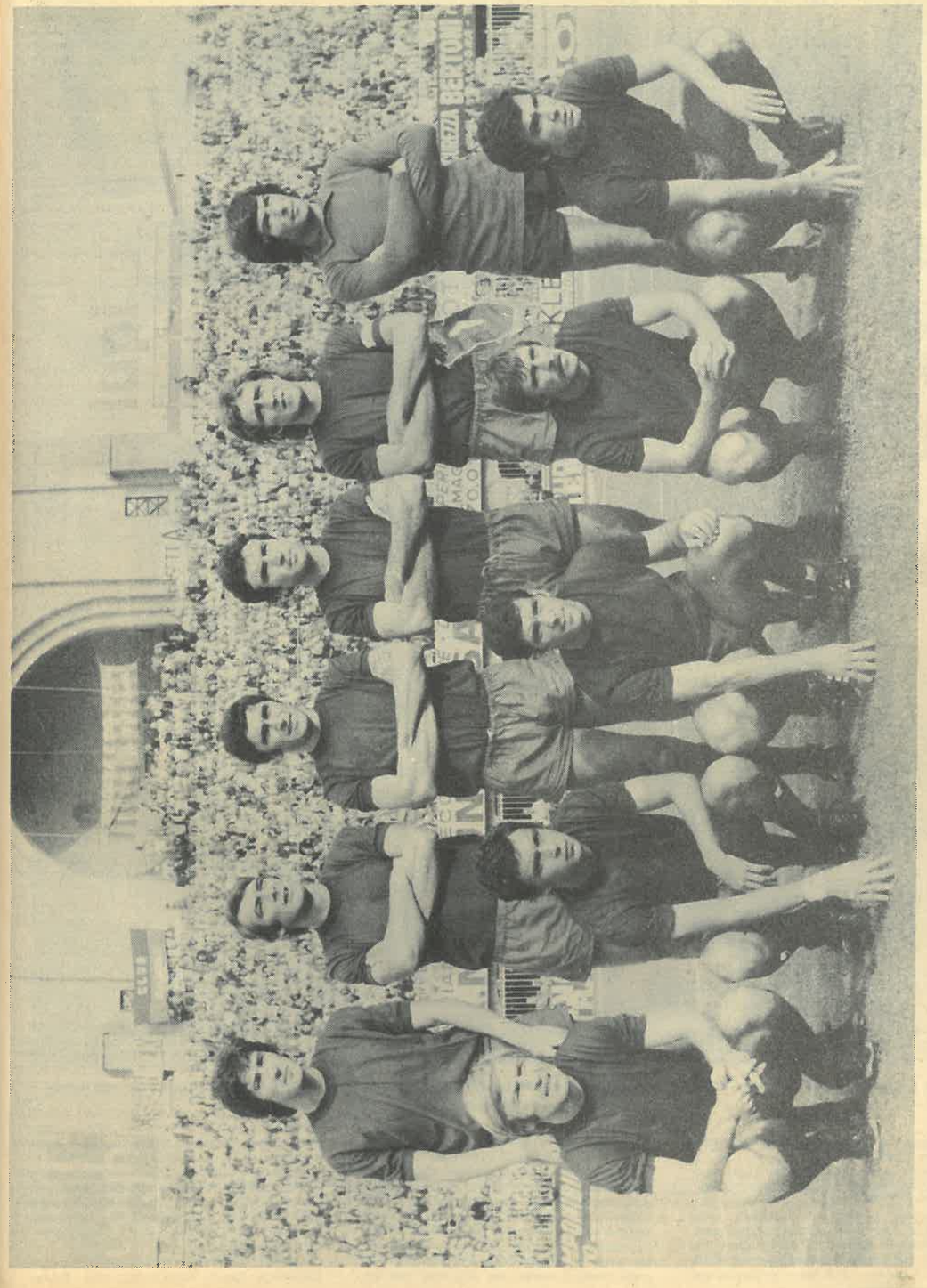
"John Kosmina had a great game against Bologna in Adelaide. He was roughed up by the Italians but he kept his head and proceeded to tear them apart in the second half...

"Eight out of 10 of our goals have been coming through players going wide. That's our strength and we must use it."

Kosmina, then with Polonia Adelaide, became a permanent member of the team after his display against the Italian Army in Sydney on June 30. He had a sound game alongside Ollerton and Abonyi in attack, but the real stars were goalkeeper Allen Maher and right back Doug Utjesenovic. Maher was credited for keeping the Army's winning score down to 3-1 and Utjesenovic was by far the Socceroos' most dangerous weapon going forward. Flops of the team were Harry Williams, Peter Wilson and Richie Bell, who could not contain the lethal Italian strikers. Midfielders Harding and Byrne were medicore.

Afer having beaten Bologna, this loss by the Socceroos may at first appear puzzling. However, the Army contained players much classier than the men from Bologna. Roberto Pruzzo, valued at close to a $1 million, and Patrizio Sala, a midfielder of Torino, were to advance to the Italian national team. Sweeper Graziano Bini was regarded as the successor to Facchetti at Inter Milan, Caludio Desolati had played more than 100 matches for Fiorentina, Vincenzo D'Amico was an Italian "B" international and Bruno Conti of Roma was regarded as one of the best right wingers in Italy.

D'Amico, Pruzzo and Desolati shared the goals as the soldiers set about showing their



Australia beat Bologna of Italy 3-0 in Adelaide and drew 0-0 in Sydney in 1976. The Bologna players above are, standing from left: Mutelli, Clerici, Cereser, Cresci, Bellugi, Mancini. Front: Roversi, Vanello, Nanni, Bertuzzo, and Rampanti who later joined Sydney club APIA.

Sergio Clerici barges his way through during a Bologna training session before the Italians' match against Australia in Adelaide in 1976.

class against the Socceroos, whose only reply came from Ollerton.

The Army's line-up was: Tancredi, Zuccheri, Chinellato, Sala, Fontolan, Bini, Conti (Maggiora 65th), Paris, Pruzzo, D'Amico, Desolati.

Controversy surrounded Australia's two-match series against the visiting national team of Hong Kong in August, 1976. First came the news that the Socceroos would get only $20 expenses — and no match fee — for playing the first of the two matches in Canberra. The players were fuming and captain Peter Wilson went so far as to threaten not to play. He stood to lose about $60 in wages from his job in a Wollongong coal mine. He said: "It's getting to the stage where you have to think seriously about whether you can afford to play in these games. I've approached the ASF on behalf of the players but it has refused to make a higher offer." To make matters worse, the ASF had told the players they could not stay in Canberra overnight because it would cost too much.

However, the ASF relented and offered $20 more when the players confronted officials in Canberra before the game, and the match went ahead, with Shoulder fielding a new-look team. The match still stands as one of the major scandals in Australian soccer.

Mendo Ristovski (Footscray), Duncan Cummings (South Melbourne), John Davies (then South Sydney Croatia), Peter Stone (Western Suburbs) and Phil O'Connor (then Wollongong) were selected to play. Their relative inexperience was to have been offset by the presence of some regulars like Doug Utjesenovic, Harry Williams and Agenor Muniz. However, the NSW Federation ruled that St George had to replay a drawn Rothmans Cup match with APIA in the same week that the Australia v Hong Kong game was scheduled. Consequently, St George withdrew Utjesenovic, Williams and Mark Jankovics from the national squad. Muniz, then of Hakoah-Easts, withdrew because of a broken nose.

Coach Shoulder then had to rush around, looking for replacements, with time running out. He chose Western Suburbs midfielder Alan Ainslie to play left back, although Marconi had an excellent young left back in Paul Degney. Right back was Hakoah-Easts' Kevin Mullen and another young defender selected to play, Arthur Xanthopoulos of South Melbourne, failed to turn up.

Anyway, Shoulder finished up with a team of young players who had never played together before and who didn't know each other's style. They flew to Canberra in the morning and played the same day. Of course they played all wrong, and they lost 0-1, with Tang Hung Chong scoring Hong Kong's winning goal in the 21st minute. Nevertheless, Wilson, Bell, Ainslie, and Ristovski acquitted themselves well.

All 11 players had tried their hardest. They were the victims of poor administration, yet they also became the scapegoats when Shoulder replaced most of them for the return match in Gosford. The young players should have been given a second chance instead of having their confidence wrecked by being punished for failing to produce a mircale in Canberra. The worst aspect of the debacle was that St George was permitted to withdraw players from the national team to play a club match. Club was allowed to come before country — the exact opposite to what happens overseas. Two years later, Marconi coach Rale Rasic was to use Peter Sharne and Paul Degney in a club match when they should have been "resting" for a coming international against Greece. For this trangression, Marconi was fined heavily and both players were suspended from the national squad — a ruling that led to court action by Marconi. Needless to say, Australia won the second match against Hong Kong. The score was 2-0, and the goals came from Abonyi and Harding. It was the last game before Australia's tour of Asia and Europe at the end of 1976.

The Socceroos were in demand in 1977. Their three-match series against Red Star Belgrade was well attended not only because of the presence of Yugoslav stars Bogicevic, Muslin and Savic, but also because of the publicity the Australians had attracted while overseas.

The Socceroos' reputations, however, took quite a battering at the hands of the artistic Yugoslavs. Australia lost each of the three games against Red Star — two in Sydney and one in Melbourne — by the score of 3-1.

Of the first match, journalist Tom Anderson wrote in "Soccer Action": "The Socceroos looked like a load of powder puffs compared with the no-nonsense, hard-tackling team of a few years ago. The Socceroos' biggest failing was trying to take Red Star on at its own game, which is ridiculous. For the simple fact of the matter is that Australia is not nearly good enough to do this. Why on earth try it, when most people know it will fail? The weaknesses were in Australia's defensive structure, which looked all at sea under pressure. Much of the trouble was caused by the fact that the Socceroos have three attacking midfielders in Jimmy Rooney, Agenor Muniz and Gary Byrne. This is committing suicide. Either Billy Rogers of South Melbourne or Ray Richards of Marconi must be brought into the midfield to add some destroying power."

Jimmy Rooney (right) battles with Red Star's Lukic in the Socceroos' 1-3 loss to the Yugoslav aces in Melbourne in early 1977.

Red Star's goals in this game were scored by Bogicevic (2) and Savic, while Bogicevic was by far the best player, partly because he was unmarked.

Australia improved over the next two matches, but lost both of them 1-3. In the second game in Sydney the Socceroos showed more aggression, had more shots at goal and benefited from sounder player from centre backs Wilson and Bennett. Yet two goals by substitute Calasan and one by Jovanovic gave Red Star a 3-0 lead before Dave Harding scored Australia's consolation goal.

In Melbourne, Gary Byrne and Peter Ollerton came good with sound displays but once again Red Star won 3-1 with goals by Jovanovic, Bogicevic and Lukic. After the match in Melbourne, coach Shoulder announced he would make no changes to his squad before the World Cup games and that Buljevic would not be included despite strong pressure from the Press, other coaches and Shoulder's own players.

The Red Star players used in the three-match series were:

Kajganic, Jovanovic, Babic, Muslin, Radovic, Bogicevic, Lukic, Nikolic, Savic, Baralic, Stamenkovic, Krmpotic, Calasan, Stojanovic, Novkovic.

Australia's last test before the World Cup qualifying series was a two-match tie with arch-rival Israel in Melbourne and Sydney. These matches were matters of prestige. Nothing but the best would do against the Israelis who had knocked Australia out of the 1970 World Cup. The Israelis' visit presented the Socceroos with an opportunity to get "out of the red." Australia had met Israel eight times for a record of two wins, three draws, three losses, eight goals scored and 10 conceded.

These two matches were to be Australia's most important at home for some time. It's nice to beat glamorous club teams from overseas, but against national teams — especially Israel — it is imperative.

Yet the Socceroos managed only two 1-1 draws — results that prompted merciless criticism of the Socceroos' style of play and of

Red Star goalkeeper Bosko Kajganic, training in Melbourne for a match against Australia in early 1977.

Israeli midfielder Meir Nimni, bleeding from the nose, is revived by a team official and fellow players during the drawn international match at Olympic Park in 1977.

The photo by Sam Belfonte was taken at the height of a sensational five minutes during the Melbourne match.

With Nimni down and out, referee Barry Harwood (SA) was signalling a penalty for Austrralia.

Israeli coach David Schweitzer, tour leader Michael Vidra and other officials joined their players in protesting against the decision.

They threatened to take the team off the field if the penalty was given.

Harwood walked over to linesman Chris Bambridge (Vic.) who said he had seen no infringement against Australia. Harwood then changed his mind about the penalty.

Having been revived, Nimni stormed forward from the restart and felled Harry Williams with a high tackle. Harwood immediately flashed the red card and sent Nimni off.

The official reason, given after the match, was deliberate kicking.

With one man short, Israel dropped back to defend its 1-0 lead but Peter Ollerton scored in the second half to make the final score 1-1.

Harwood refused to comment after the match.

Shoulder's leadership. In Melbourne, Israel played with 10 men for 57 minutes after Meir Nimni had been sent off for kicking Harry Williams. That should have paved the way for an Australian victory, but no. The Socceroos simply didn't have what it takes. Most of them gave it all they had in the second half but instead of being shrewd and calculating, they were more like a herd of elephants rushing forward, devoid of reason. Once again, the Socceroos displayed their impotence when asked to take the initiative and make the decisions. One felt sorry for Peter Ollerton who fought his guts out in attack. He was a big, strong, merciless killer — the only Australian with the same fierce bite as his opponents. To make it easier for Ollerton and indeed, for the whole team, Australia should have varied its play to get around Israel's packed defence. Instead, every ball was aimed at Ollerton's head and after a while, Israel's magnificent libero Avi Cohen appeared almost like a robot, programmed to repel this high-ball game. Gideon Damti scored for Israel in the 10th minute and it wasn't until the 58th minute — after Nimni had been sent off — that Ollerton equalised.

Of the return match in Sydney, Shoulder said: "It was our worst performance since I took over. We were flat, we were laborious and there is a lot of hard work to be done. Australia didn't even manage to score a goal in this game. Instead, the Socceroos had to rely on an own goal by Israel's Shani, which cancelled out Spiegler's goal.

Israel's line-ups over the two matches:

In Melbourne: Sorinov; Leventhal, Avi Cohen, Haim Bar, Leon; Shani (Tourk 72nd), Nimni (sent off 33rd), Neumann; Damti, Peretz, Spiegler (Jakob Cohen 72nd).

In Sydney: Sorinov; Leventhal, Avi Cohen, Haim Bar, Leon; Shani, Nimni, Neumann (Malmillian 67th); Damti, Peretz, Spiegler.

By the time of Australia's next "friendly" match at home, against Middlesbrough, it had won the Oceania World Cup qualifying tournament against New Zealand and Taiwan (with a 0-1 loss to Fiji in between). Yet the Socceroos crashed 0-5 to Middlesbrough — their biggest loss of the decade! It was a disastrous result. Middlesbrough had managed only four goals against Victoria — and Victoria was in atrocious form.

Middlesbrough was a dour, colorless team which went about its work with the enthusiasm of an undertaker. The only consolation for the fans was the presence of Graeme Souness, the brilliant midfielder who was later to join Liverpool, and some snappy wing play by David Armstrong.

Shoulder had to call on Western Suburbs' Terry Eaton to replace injured Allan Maher in goal, and Eaton had a disastrous debut. But the most glaring weakness was in midfield where, once again, Australia lacked a dominating destroyer of the Ray Richards type. For the record, the Middlesbrough goals came from John Hickton (2), Willie Maddren, Tony McAndrew, and Souness.

Israeli captain Mordechair Spieglar argues with referee Barry Harwood who subsequently changed his mind about giving Australia a penalty.

England international Ralph Coates – played for Tottenham Hotspur against Australia in 1976 and had a guest stint with Philips League club St George in 1978.

The Middlesbrough line-up was: Cuff; Craggs, Bailey, Maddren, Boam, Souness, McAndrew, Mills, Hickton (Walsh 73rd), Ramage, Armstrong (Wood 73rd).

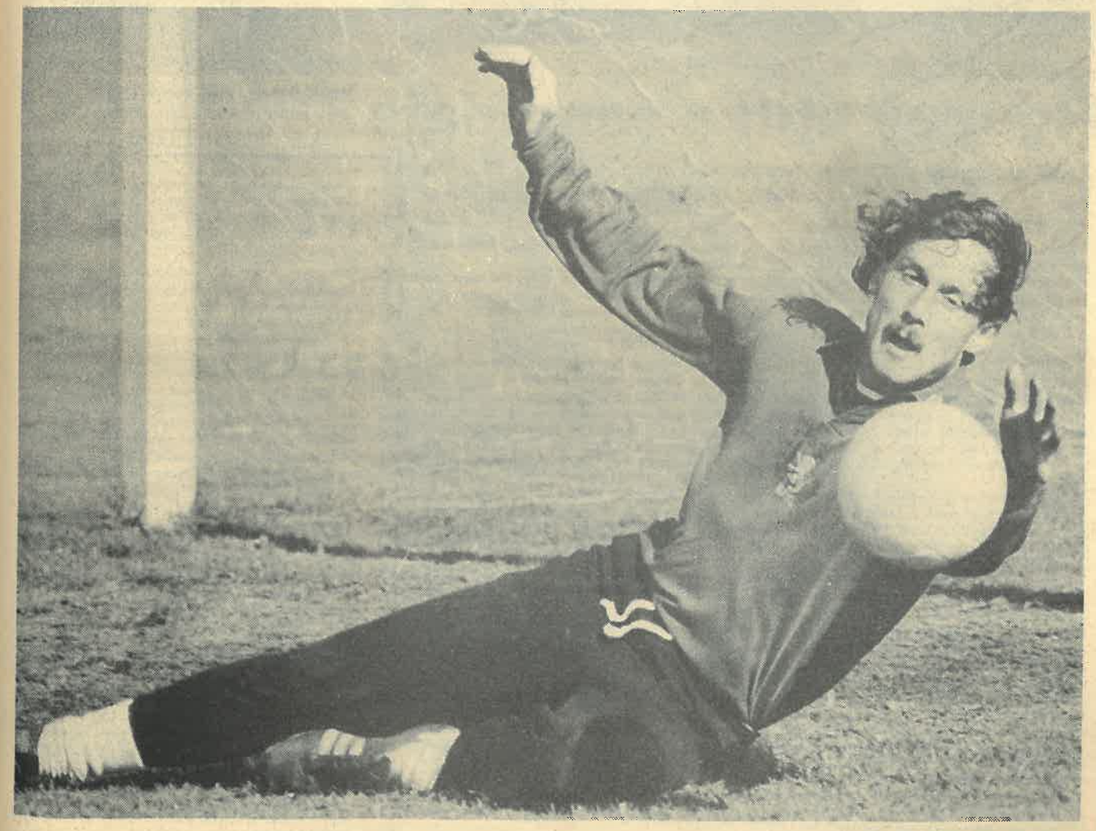
A visit by a selection of English old-timers calling themselves the Bobby Charlton All-Stars gave the Socceroos an opportunity to redeem themselves. The visitors were an impressive lot – Alex Stepney (Manchester United), Tommy Smith (Liverpool), Peter Lorimer (Leeds), Alan Ball (Southampton), Brian Kidd (Manchester City) and of course Bobby and Jackie Charlton.

The 10,000 people who turned up at Melbourne's Olympic Park saw Australia and the All Stars turn on one of the most entertaining matches of recent times. It had everything – glamor, countless scoring chances, enthusiastic running (slow running by the older players) and, most important, it resulted in a 2-1 victory by the Socceroos. Col Bennett was the best of the Australians and Allan Maher, Peter Wilson and Jim Tansey also deserved praise. Murray Barnes, in the team ahead of Gary Byrne, was a resounding success in midfield, but playing as well in that position against World Cup opposition was to prove beyond him. Brian Kidd dazzled the crowd with some nifty play. He was clearly the man of the match. Goals by Barnes and Harding (penalty) gave Australia a 2-0 lead before Alan Ball scored for the All-Stars in the 78th minute.

The All Star line-up was:

Stepney; Lawler, J. Charlton (Coates 71st), J. Hurst, Dunne; Smith, Ball, R. Charlton; Callaghan, Kidd, Lorimer.

Australia's 0-5 loss to Middlesbrough in 1977 is one of its worst on record. David Mills of the English club is pictured at training in Sydney.



Middlesbrough goalkeeper Pat Cuff shows his style at training.

Rooney still a candidate

Jimmy Rooney stands over a tangle in the PSL match between his previous club Marconi and Olympic.

When injury sidelined Australian skipper Johnny Warren in 1971, a vacancy was created in the Socceroo squad for a new midfielder.

Coach Rale Rasic didn't have to look far. He chose Prague's Jimmy Rooney who, two years earlier, had played under Rasic in the Victorian State side.

Rooney's first game for Australia was against the touring English FA team. He went on to play 84 games for Australia (45 full internationals) over a period of seven years. His most recent game for the Socceroos was against Iran (0-1) in Teheran in late 1977.

But his days of representative soccer are by no means over. He played for Victoria against Wisla Crakow of Poland as recently as February, 1979.

One of his biggest thrills was playing against Pele's team Santos in Sydney in 1972. Although Pele was being shackled by Ray Richards, Santos still managed to go to the lead with a goal by Orlando Pereria in the 32nd minute. But three minutes later Rooney stormed forward from midfield to pick up a clearance and smash it into the net to put the Socceroos on level terms. That goal saved the match for Australia. Although Edu put Santos back into the lead in the second half, the Australians now knew that they too were capable of scoring goals, and added another through Ray Baartz to tie the match 2-2.

Rooney played in England with Peterborough for two seasons before suffering from an ankle injury that took some time to mend. He then returned home to Scotland where he played for Montrose until he headed for Melbourne with two friends, John Gardiner and Jimmy Smart. Gardiner joined George Cross while Rooney and Smart (who had toured Australia with Chelsea in 1965) joined Lions.

Rooney won the 1968 Argus Medal as the best and fairest Victorian State League player and represented Victoria eight times from 1968 to 1969 before joining Prague in Sydney in 1970. In 1972 he switched to APIA where he had five successful seasons. However, APIA refused to join the Philips League when it started in 1977 so, anxious to improve himself, Rooney transferred to Marconi where he once again linked up with Rale Rasic.

At the end of his first season with Marconi, Rooney was voted Australian Player of the Year by the Australian Soccer Press Association. He polled 201 votes, giving him a 93 vote winning margin over runner-up John Kosmina of West Adelaide. Third place went to Branko Buljevic (Fitzroy) with 83 votes.

During his nine years in Sydney, Rooney maintained close contact with friends in Melbourne and he often said that he would go back one day. This he did when he transferred to Fitzroy at the end of the 1978 season.

Few people realise that Jimmy Rooney has captained the national team. He stood in as skipper against Singapore and in the World Cup game against Kuwait in 1977 while Peter Wilson was serving a suspension.

Australia resumed its World Cup qualifying programme with an unimpressive 3-0 win against lowly Hong Kong in Adelaide in July, 1977, before taking part in the "World of Soccer" tournament against Celtic, Arsenal and Red Star.

The Socceroos showed their finest form in this tournament but flopped badly in the World Cup games that followed it. Players have said since that the glamorous tournament inspired the team to show form that was not characteristic. Because this level of achievement was not the norm for the Socceroos, they found it extremely difficult — nay, impossible — to reproduce it when it really mattered. For the good of our World Cup progress, the tournament should perhaps not have been played. The promotion value of the series cannot be questioned, however.

Reg Lambourne, an English entrepeneur, was head of the company that promoted the tournament. Prize money of $66,000 was split up as follows: $36,000 for the winner, $18,000 for the beaten finalist and $12,000 for the third-placed team, on top of their guarantees. Melbourne was chosen as venue for the final, because experience had shown that Melbourne commanded the biggest crowds. Sydney got Arsenal v Australia, Celtic v Australia and Celtic v Arsenal, Adelaide was given Arsenal v Red Star.

This tournament put on show some of the finest players in Europe. The best of them were:

DANNY McGRAIN, Celtic full back, voted Scotland's player of the year for 1977. His rise in the game had been remarkable, considering a fractured skull which threatened his career a few years earlier. Aged 27, McGrain had been capped 32 times for Scotland.

PAT RICE, Arsenal full back, had been at the heart of Arsenal's major successes and had taken over as team captain the previous December following the departure of Alan Ball to Southampton.

SLAVOLJUB MUSLIN, Red Star centre back, had made his first team debut at 21 and was called into Yugoslavia's national under 23 team almost straight away. He then went on to become a full Yugoslav international.

PAT STANTON, Celtic centre back, was with Hibernian for 13 years, most of them as skipper, until he was acquired by Celtic in 1976 in exchange for Jackie McNamara. He became Celtic's sweeper and, in sharing in a League and Cup double, he won more honors in nine months than in a lifetime with Hibs. He was a former captain of Scotland and a former Scottish player of the year.

VLADISLAV BOGICEVIC, Red Star midfielder, later to join the Cosmos in New York, had been capped 31 times for Yugoslavia, and proclaimed by the Yugoslav Press as a "second Beckenbauer." Bogicevic was valued at $1 million.

VLADIMIR PETROVIC, Red Star midfielder-forward, a full international for Yugoslavia who had played 250 senior games for Red Star since making his debut against Real Madrid in 1972.

JOHANNES EDVALDSSON, Celtic centre back or midfielder, was an amateur with a club called Valur in Iceland, and also a defensive pillar in Iceland's national team before Celtic offered him terms to turn professional. He jumped at the chance and became a top man in the Celtic team apart from remaining an Iceland international.

LIAM BRADY, Arsenal midfielder, only 20 when he visited, Brady was already writing his name alongside those of the Highbury greats. He was an Eire international with enormous skill and vision.

MALCOLM MACDONALD, Arsenal striker, had been signed from Newcastle United for $520,000 and immediately became equal top scorer in the English First Division. In 1970, Macdonald had played in the Luton Town team that lost 1-2 to the touring Socceroos, and had scored Luton's only goal. Macdonald, out of the England team only because of a personality clash with manager Don Revie, was back in Australia for the tournament only about a month after having guested for South Melbourne Hellas in the Philips League.

ZORAN FILIPOVIC, Red Star striker, made his first team debut in the 1970 European Cup, netting three goals against Ujpest Dozsa of Budapest. A full international with 320 games for his club and Red Star's top scorer in the past two years.

BOBBY LENNOX, Celtic winger, the last member of the "Lisbon Lions" still left on Celtic's playing staff. That was the name given to the Celtic team that won the European Cup 10 years previously. Lennox had suffered a leg break in the previous season but bounced back in Celtic's championship year. Capped seven times, Lennox joined Celtic in 1961 and had served five years longer than any other player on the staff.

Red Star beat Celtic 3-1 in the final of a similar tournament in Singapore on their way to Australia. Arsenal grabbed third place by trouncing Singapore 5-0. Red Star collected $18,360 for winning the Singapore series and was favorite to add the Australian first prize of $36,000.

Australia caused the sensation of the series by beating Arsenal 3-1 in the opening match. Arsenal's manager Terry Neill was full of praise for the Australian players, especially John Kosmina. It was probably as a result of Kosmina's display in this game that he was signed by Neill the following year.

Shoulder said: "We had been threatening to do this for quite some time and it really happened tonight. After this marvellous win the players must now really believe in themselves and it should put us in a good position for the coming World Cup game against Iran. John Nyskohus blasted home a well-taken free kick by Jimmy Rooney for the first goal in the 21st minute. George Armstrong equalised in the 60th minute but the Socceroos continued to surge forward and added two more goals by John Nyskohus and Peter Ollerton. Marconi's flying young forward Peter Sharne made his Australian debut in this match, coming on as a substitute for Nyskohus. All the Socceroos were superb, but some of the Arsenal stars flopped badly — Alan Hudson, Richie Powling and even "Supermac" Macdonald. Arsenal's line-up was:

Rimmer, Rice, Young, Powling (sub. Matthews, sub, O'Leary), Nelson, Brady, Hudson, Price, Armstrong, Macdonald, Stapleton.

Chris Lawler (Liverpool) of the Bobby Charlton All-Stars wins a header against Australia's Jim Tansey (left) at Olympic Park. At right is Col Bennett. The Socceroos beat the All-stars 2-1.

Pat Stanton, one of the great players in the Celtic team that played against Red Star, Australia and Arsenal in the 1977 World of Soccer series.

English referee Jack Taylor shows the yellow card to Celtic's Johannes Edvaldsson during the World of Soccer tournament final of 1977.

Red Star skipper Vladislav Bogicevic hails Zoran Filipovic's winning goal against Australia (3-2) at Olympic Park in 1977. At left is Australian captain Peter Wilson.

Peter Wilson (right) and John Kosmina (No. 9) go up for a high ball in Australia's 2-3 loss to Red Star.

Jubilant Celtic manager Jock Stein after the Scots had beaten Red Star 2-0 in the 1977 World of Soccer series.

NSW Federation president Peter McCann welcomes Red Star captain Vladislav Bogicevic at Sydney Airport.

Arsenal 1976–77, standing from left: W. Dixon (assistant manager), J. Rimmer, T. Ross, S. Nelson, D. O'Leary, J. Matthews, P. Storey, B. Parker, F. Street (physiotherapist). Front: P. Rice, G. Armstrong, F. Stapleton, M. Macdonald, A. Cropley, T. Neil (manager), A. Ball, J. Radford, L. Brady, P. Simpson, R. Powling.

A scene from Celtic's 1-1 draw with Red Star mid-week at Olympic Park. At left is Celtic's Paul Wilson and at right Sead Susic who scored Red Star's goal.

Arsenal played a little better against Celtic but still lost 2-3 in front of 21,462 people at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Celtic's goals came from Paul Wilson (2) and Ronnie Glavin, Arsenal's from Macdonald and Pat Rice. Paul Wilson was showing superb form in this tournament. He was by far the best man afield in the return match between the Singapore finalists at Olympic Park in front of 21,000 fans. The score this time was 1;1, with Sead Susic scoring for Red Star in the 82nd minute and Roddy McDonald for Celtic five minutes later. It was like a game of chess between opponents with great respect for each other. Neither team took unnecessary chances.

Line-ups for Celtic v Arsenal:

CELTIC: Latchford, McGrain, Burns, Stanton, McDonald, Aitken, Conn, Edvaldsson, Glavin, Doyle, Wilson.

ARSENAL: Rimmer, Rice, Nelson, Price, O'Leary, Young, Rix (Brady), Hudson, Macdonald, Stapleton, Armstrong.

Celtic v Red Star:

CELTIC: Latchford, McGrain, Stanton, McDonald, Edvaldsson, Burns, Conn, Glavin, Wilson, Lennox (Doyle 60th).

RED STAR: Stojanovic, Jelikic, Nikolic, Muslin, Jovanovic, Petrovic (Sestic 86th), Bogicevic, Lukic, Susic, Filipovic, Savic.

Australia failed to win either of its two remaining matches, but played extremely well in both of them. The difference between Australia and Celtic in front of 12,742 people at the Sydney Sports Ground was the great Danny McGrain.

McGrain, showing why he was rated one of the greatest full backs in the world, attacked like a top striker and had a hand in Celtic's three goals. Evaldsson gave Celtic the lead in only the second minute, heading home a McGrain cross, and the Socceroos would have been excused for hanging their heads after such a set-back against a world-class team. Instead, Murray Barnes hammered home a Jimmy Rooney free kick only three minutes later to level the scores and Peter Ollerton put Australia into the lead

Red Star, standing from left: B. Kajganic, D. Savic, D. Lukic, Z. Jelikic, S. Muslin, Z. Filipovic, N. Jovanovic, V. Bogicevic, A. Stojanovic. Front: B. Radovic, P. Baralic, M. Sestic, S. Stamenkovic, M. Novkovic, D. Nikolic, M. Babic. Missing: S. Susic, V. Petrovic, D. Savic.

Celtic before leaving Scotland for the 1977 World of Soccer series against Arsenal, Australia and Red Star. Standing from left: N. Mochan (trainer), R. Macdonald, A. Conn, P. Stanton, R. Baines, P. McClusky, P. Latchford, A. Lynch, R. Aitken, J. Edvaldsson, J. Clark (trainer). Front: D. McParland (assistant manager), T. Burns, J. Doyle, R. Glavin, D. McGrain, K. Dalglish, J. Craig, P. Wilson, J. Gibson, J. Stein (manager).

inthe 22nd minute, again after a Rooney free kick which was becoming a feature of Australia's play. Edvaldsson equalised again and the winner came from Paul Wilson after Australia's Harry Williams had failed to clear a ball on the goal line.

Celtic's line-up: Latchford, McGrain (Kay), Burns, Stanton, Edvaldsson, McDonald, Glavin, Aitken, Wilson, Conn, Doyle.

Australia also lost 2-3 to Red Star in Melbourne. Vladimir Petrovic, star of Red Star's victory in the Singapore final, hogged most of the limelight but there was glory for Harry Williams and John Kosmina as well. Williams, long hailed for his excellent attacking play down the flank, showed he was equally as brilliant in defence. Kosmina was the heart and soul of Australia's attack – a dynamic, confident player with the bravado to take on illustratious opponents like Jovanovic, Jelikic and Muslin, and beat them! George Harris, Dave Harding and Jimmy Rooney were also in fine form. However, goalkeeper Jack Reilly, playing his first game for Australia since June, 1975, made two unfortunate errors which resulted in Red Star's equalising goals at 1-1 and 2-2. John Kosmina's goal in the 27th. minute put Australia one-up, Dusan Savic equalised three minutes before half time and Dave Harding made it 2-1 in the 61st minute with a long-range shot that bounced into the net off the boot of goalkeeper Stojanovic. In the 42nd minute Reilly misjudged a long, floating 25-metre shot from Sestic and allowed it to fall into the net. Filipovic scored the winning goal from a short cross by Sestic in the 70th minute and Shoulder countered by sending in Sharne for the declining Ollerton. It was of little use and Australia lost 2-3.

Red Star's team: Stojanovic, Jovanovic, Jelikic, Muslin, Novkovic, (Sestic half time), Nikolic, Bogicevic, Susic, (Lukic 84th), Petrovic, Filipovic, Savic.

Red Star's Vladimir Petrovic resorts to shirt-pulling in a bid to stop Celtic's Tommy Burns in the 1977 World of Soccer tournament final.

Celtic won the tournament final against Red Star 2-0. The Scots played safety-first soccer in front of 22,000 people at Olympic Park, defending stoutly and coming forward in counter-attacks, the style that had taken Australia to the 1974 World Cup finals. Danny McGrain, who had overlapped so brilliantly in previous games, stayed permanently in defence this time, as did Roddy McDonald, Pat Stanton and Tommy Burns. After an initial period of absolutely brilliant play, Red Star became frustrated and was finally overrun. Celtic's goals came from Roddy McDonald and Edvaldsson. Line-ups:

CELTIC: Latchford; McGrain, McDonald, Stanton, Burns; Glavin, Aitken, Edvaldsson, Conn; Lennox (Doyle 61st), Wilson.

RED STAR: Stojanovic; Jelikic, Muslin, Nikolic, Jovanovic; Petrovic (Lukic 60th), Bogicevic, Susic; Sestic, Filipovic, Savic.

Celtic manager Jock Stein won no friends with his unsportsmanlike behaviour in the dressing rooms. Stein refused to shake hands with TV commentator Jim Barker and abused him loudly because Barker had tipped Red Star to beat Celtic. It was Barker's right to make a "prediction" before the match, and he was man enough to admit he had been wrong, and to extend his hand to Stein. The pugilistic Scot would have been blasted by every paper in Britain had he made a similar outburst against a Press man in his own country. His was an inexcusable outburst, one which lowered his standing among many soccer fans in Australia.

Before the final, another scandal erupted when Arsenal sent Malcolm Macdonald and Alan Hudson back to England after manager Terry Neill had accused them of drinking. He was to say later that the two players had tried to

Red Star striker Dusan Savic shoots for goal at Olympic Park.

"provoke situations" and that it had been a case of "them or me." But back in England, Macdonald denied Neill's accusations. He wrote in the "Sunday Mirror" that a combination of a few gins and tonic plus sleeping tablets had created the "wrong impression" of his and Hudson's drinking habits. No matter what the rights and wrongs of the situation, it was the Adelaide public that paid the penalty for Arsenal's internal squabble, for the fans were deprived of seeing Macdonald and Hudson in the match against Red Star. Arsenal won 1-0 with a goal by Liam Brady.

ARSENAL: Rimmer, Rice, Nelson, Powling, O'Leary, Young Brady, Price, Stapleton, Rix, Armstrong.

RED STAR: Stojanovic, Jelikic, Jovanovic, Muslin, Nikolic, Bogicevic, Lukic, (Novkovic), Petrovic, Savic, Filipovic, Susic (Sestic).

The tournament was watched by a total of 103,000 who paid about $500,000 at the gate. Stars of the series were Petrovic, Jovanovic, Paul Wilson, McGrain, Kosmina, Harry Williams and Jim Rooney. Gojko Zec and Jock Stein both said that Kosmina would have no trouble getting a game anywhere in Europe. Terry Neill said: "You have an excellent team. It's a pity that the fans don't appreciate just how good it is." But as we pointed out earlier, Australia could not maintain this level of football in the World Cup, where opponents played it tight at the back and with fierce determination. It is now a sad part of our soccer history that Australia failed to qualify for the World Cup finals, losing qualifying matches against Iran (0-1 & 0-1) and Kuwait (1-2 & 0-1).

Red Star's Zoran Filipovic shoots for goal in front of Celtic's Danny McGrain as a packed grandstand watches intently. Celtic won the tournament final 2-0.

Red Star striker Zoran Filipovic in full flight, riding a tackle.

Ernie Campbell (right), about to score for Marconi against South Melbourne in a PSL match. The goalkeeper is Jack Reilly and in the background is Arthur Xanthopoulos.

Campbell tops, thanks to Docherty

The great Tommy Docherty is one of the men Ernie Campbell has to thank for his climb to the top in Australian soccer.

While he was here as manager of touring Chelsea in 1965, Docherty assessed Campbell's great potential while the young star was appearing in a Canterbury District match preceding Chelsea's clash with New South Wales.

The result was an apprenticeship with Chelsea, a post Campbell held for seven months. On his return to Sydney, Campbell was snapped up by APIA-Leichhardt. Campbell rewarded APIA's confidence in him by scoring a hat-trick of goals in APIA's 3-2 victory over St. George in the 1967 NSW grand final. All his goals came in the last nine minutes – one of the most memorable scoring feats in Australian soccer.

Campbell's first representative honors were gained with the Canterbury District under 12 side, playing on the wing. Later he played for the full NSW State team and of course for the Socceroos.

Australia would not have qualified for the 1974 World Cup finals had it not been for Campbell. Trailing 0-1 to New Zealand in the first World Cup qualifying game in 1973 in Auckland, Australia seemed doomed to defeat until Campbell slotted home the equalising goal to give Australia a point which was to prove decisive later.

He scored again against Indonesia in Sydney and put on a great performance in Australia's 3-1 victory over Irak. Campbell played in the World Cup finals, and the 1975 series against the USSR under Brian Green was his last international assignment.

The tricky forward transferred from APIA to Marconi in 1971 and switched to his present club, Sydney City, in early 1978.

He admits he owes a lot to Tommy Docherty. "During the time I was in England I lived soccer, learning how to train and keep fit and I acquired some of the skills that have helped me so much in Sydney soccer," he says.

After the World Cup, Australia did not play again until June, 1978, when it met Greece in a three-match series in Melbourne, Adelaide and Sydney. Only the Adelaide match was billed as a full international. The other two games were used to blood new players.

As usual, the fans were disappointed. Missing from the touring team were the brightest stars of Greek soccer – Koudas, Mavros, Domazos, Papaiouannou. The last two were left out because coach Alketas Panagoulias was replacing ageing players with younger ones, but no-one really believed the excuse that Koudas and Mavros were injured.

The players who did come included: Kyrastas, Karavitis (Olympiakos), Kapsis (Panathianaikos), Christidis, Ravoussis (AEK), Gesios (Iraklis), Ziakos (Apollon), Kondogeorgakis (Yaninna), Xanthopoulos (Iraklis) and the unknown Christos Ifandidis who was the star of the tour.

Australia lost 1-2 in Melbourne, 0-1 in Adelaide and drew 1-1 in Sydney. The most impressive performance by the Socceroos was in Melbourne, where newcomers Chris Kalafatidis (South Melbourne), Peter Laumets (Preston Makedonia, now South Melbourne), Joe Picioane (Footscray), and John Stevenson (Hakoah-Easts) excelled. John Nyskohus had his best game for Australia in attack and Mendo Ristovski was also conspicuous up front. Gary Cole (Fitzroy) didn't do quite as well, but nevertheless put Australia into the lead with a goal in the 62nd minute before Greece fought back with two goals by Ifandidis. Steve Kokoska (Essendon Croatia), George Christopoulos (South Melbourne) and John Davies (Canberra) were all given a run as substitutes.

Shoulder said after the match Australia had played so well that with the return of the seasoned Socceroos for the next match, Australia should win. However, there was no way that the older player could do any better than the young lions had done in Melboure.

Greece's line-up in Melbourne was: Christidis; Kyrastas, Ravousis, Kapsis, Pallas; Terzanidis, Karavitis (Ziakos 66th), Liakos; Kondogeorgakis (Xanthopoulos 88th), Gesios (Alexiadis 66th), Ifandidis.

As we had feared, Australia's "best team available" looked hardly that in the full international in Adelaide. Shoulder used Peter Stone, Gary Marocchi and Murray Barnes in midfield – an exercise that backfired badly. None had the creative flair or destructive qualities of Greece's Christos Terzanidis who tore Australia's midfielders out of the game. Infandidis was great again, as was Pallas who had also done well at left back in Melbourne. Australia had good players only in defence where Jim Tansey, Allan Maher, David Jones and right back Gary Byrne battled gallantly to hamper their opponents. Up front, Sharne, Nyskohus and Kosmina, on holidays from Arsenal, were blotted out by the Greek rearguard. Greece's goal was scored by Ifandidis and its line-up was:

Christidis; Kyrastas, Ravousis, Kapsis, Pallas; Terzanidis, Kondogeorgakis (Ziakos 84th), Xanthopoulos; Ifandidis, Gesios, Liakos.

Panagoulias rated Greece's 1-1 draw in Sydney as its worst performance of the tour but was delighted that the series had confirmed his faith in Ifandidis, centre back Kapsis and left back Pallas. In this match, Shoulder introduced many more newcomers – Gary Meier (Sydney

Christos Ifandidis, star of Greece's 1978 tour, makes his way past Jim Tansey in Greece's 2-1 victory of Australia at Olympic Park. Ifandidis scored both goals. At left is Australia's Joe Picioane.

Victorian Peter Laumets, making his debut for the Socceroos, taps a shot over the bar during the match against Greece at Olympic Park in 1978. At right is John Stevenson and at left Gary Byrne.

Olympic), Savro Iozelli (Brisbane City), Steve Perry (Brisbane City), John O'Shea (St. George), John Karaspyros (Canterbury-Marrickville), Sebastian Giampaolo (Inter Monaro) and Joe Senkalski (Sydney Olympic, now Newcastle Utd) but none of them was as successful as the newcomers in Melbourne had been, Karavitis put Greece into the lead in the 12th minute and Barnes equalised with a 77th minute penalty.

Greece's line-up: Christidis; Kyrastas, Ravousis, Kapsis, Pallas; Kondogeorgakis, Terzanidis, Xanthopoulos; Karavitis (Alexiadis 73rd), Liakos (Ziakos half time).

It was Australia's last game under Jim Shoulder, who returned to England soon after, to be replaced later by Rudi Gutendorf. "I enjoyed my stay in Australia, but I want to be involved in full-time football in England or Europe. I hope I'll be able to pick something up when I get back," he said on leaving.

His advice to Australia was: "Bringing in top coaches is not the answer unless that coach is prepared to stay for at least six years. Helmut Schoen could have coached Australia and we still would not have qualified for the World Cup. A national coach needs time to set up and organise himself.

"The national coach should be from Australia because if a top European coach comes here and leaves after two or three years, the country is no better off.

"A long-term plan is needed, allowing the antional coach to work with the State Directors of Coaching and the Philips League more closely and with set ideas.

"The national coach must be someone who's willing to stay for a long period. He must also get the support of the administrators and soccer people, regardless of the results on the field."

To back up his view, Shoulder cited the example of the West German national team, which has had only three coaches in the past 40 years.

"And when Helmut Schoen (then the coach) retires," Shoulder added. "The assistant coach (Jupp Derwall) will take over. He has the advantage of knowing the set-up and will carry on where Schoen left off."

To Shoulder's credit, he always stuck to his guns in the face of even the heftiest criticism, and took it all with a pinch of salt. He refused to

Greek midfielder Christos Terzanidis – a veteran, but still one of the top men in his position.

Nicolas Christidis, goalkeeper of the touring Greek team.

John Stevenson of Australia leads Kondogeorgakis of Greece to the ball during their match in Melbourne in 1978.

retaliate against his many knockers, remaining unaffected and cool – on the surface anyway.

Before leaving, Shoulder singled out three players he believed had a big future in the national team – John Davies (Canberra), John O'Shea (St. George) and Gary Cole (Fitzroy).

At the time of publication, an Australian XI has played only one game in 1979, against 1977-78 Polish champion Wisla Krakow.

New national coach Rudi Gutendorf picked the squad but could not be present for the game, as he was in South America at the time with the Australian under 19 squad for qualifying matches in the Coca Cola world youth championship.

Gutendorf left Les Scheinflug in charge of the Australians back home and Scheinflug was forced to make several changes. Bobby Russell of Sydney Croatia had transferred to Adelaide City, and was unavailable. Ian Stone, also of Croatia, was in dispute with his club and did not attend training. West Adelaide full back Vic Bozanic was injured, as was Footscray's Zdravko Lujic. Kevin Mullen of Sydney City was also injured, so Scheinflug flew Steve Perry down from Brisbane City at the last moment to play right back.

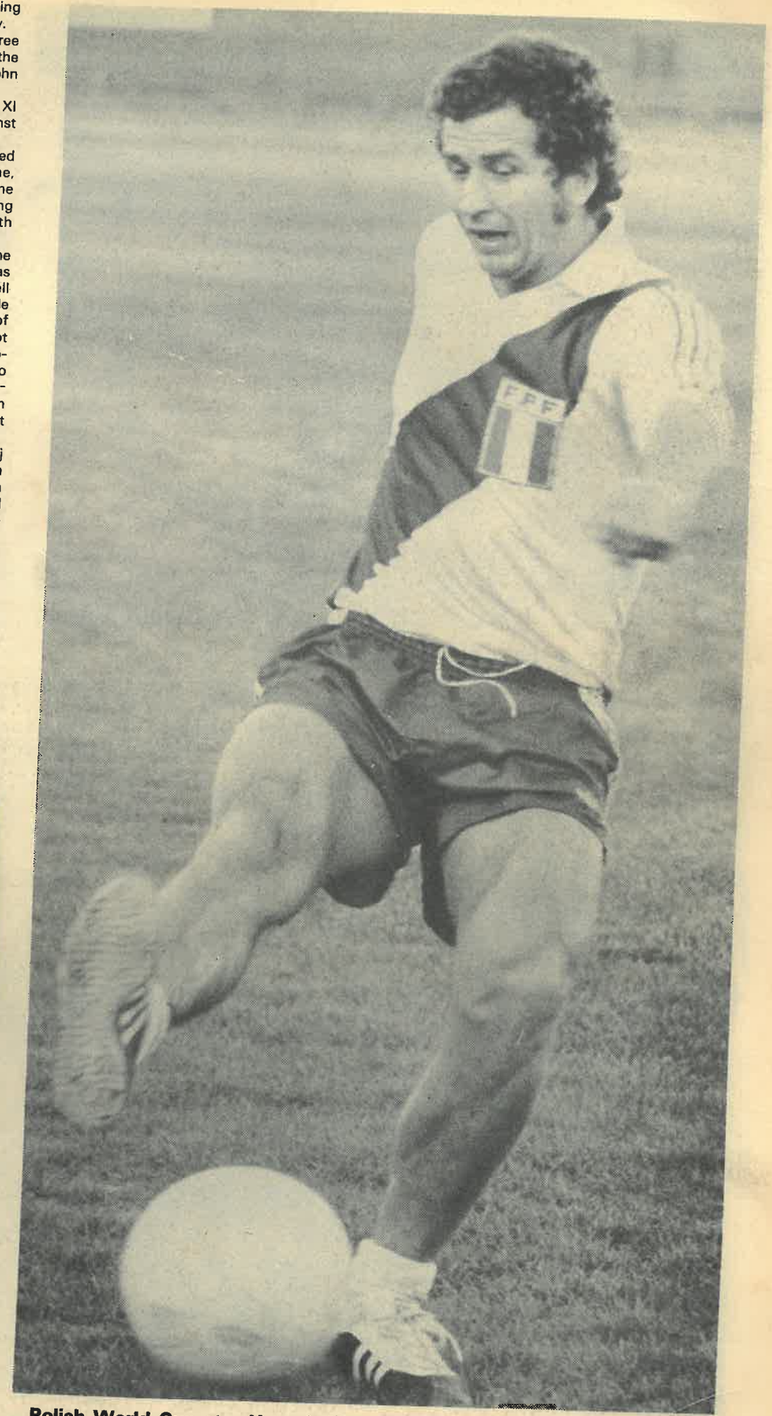
Wisla came without World Cup player Andrzej Iwan. World Cup men who did come were Adam Nawalka and Henryk Maculewicz who played in Argentina in 1978 and Zdzislaw Kapka and Kazimierz Kmiecik who were in Poland's 1974 squad in West Germany.

Wisla's line-up at the Sydney Sports Ground was:

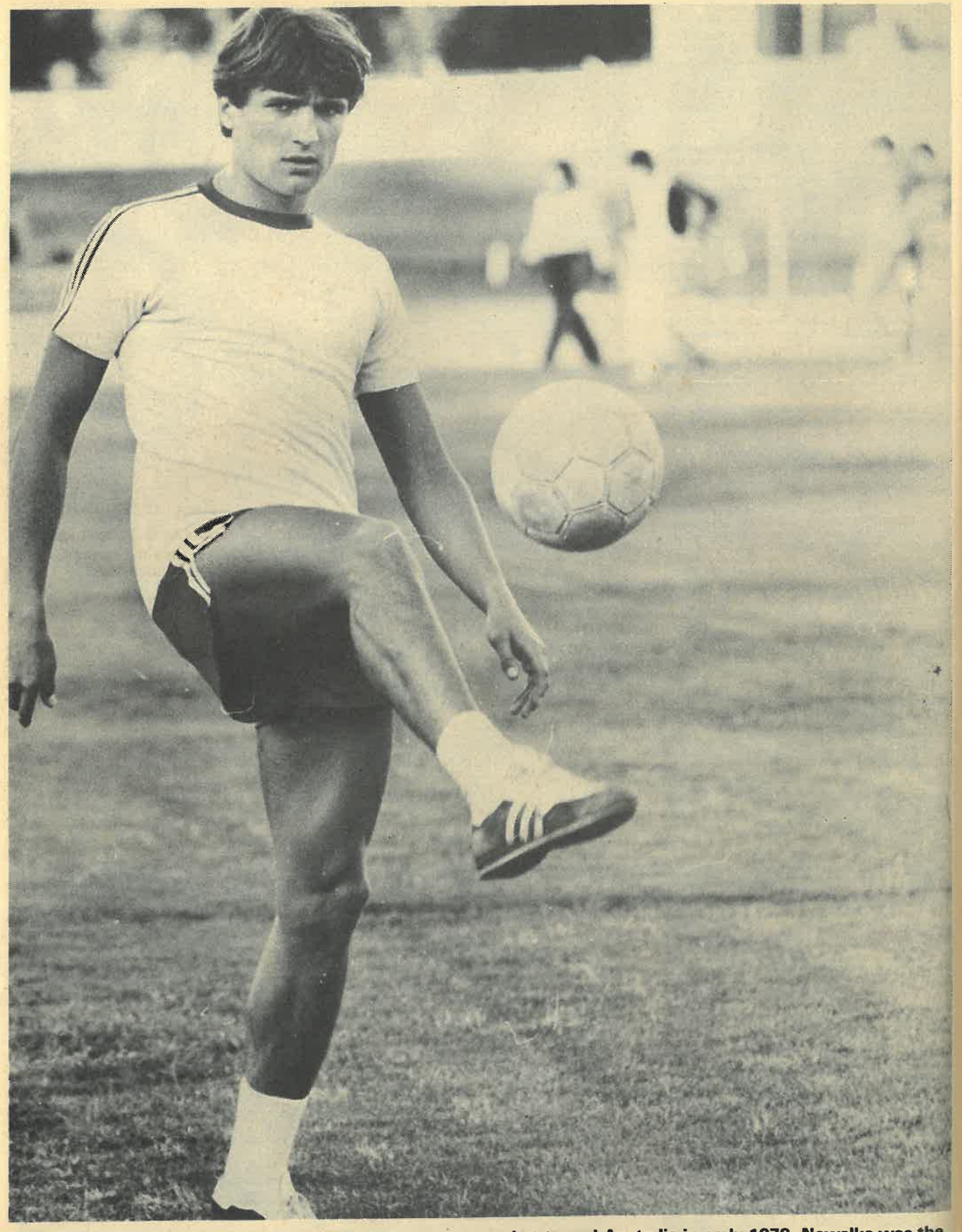
Stanislaw; Motyka (injured, sub. Gazda 70th), Plaszewski, Budka, Maculewicz; Lipka, Kapka, Nawalka; Skrobowski (Wrobel 45th), Kmiecik, Krupinski (Targosz 63rd min).

So superior was Wisla's technique that Manfred Schaefer, reporting on the game in "Soccer Action", at one stage counted 17 successive Wisla passes without Australia getting a touch. Schaefer wrote that the Socceroos were more tentative than they should have been, that Phil O'Connor of St. George should have been used for the full game instead of only the last five

ALAN MARNOCH, one of the greatest centre backs in Australian soccer history, Scottish-born Marnoch was a key man in the Socceroos' 1969 World Cup challenge. However, injuries and inability to get time off work for tours prevented him from extending his commitment to the Socceroos. Marnoch played for Hakoah-Easts, now known as Sydney City.



Polish World Cup star Henryk Maculewicz – top player with the 1979 Wisla Krakow touring team.



Adam Nawalka, star midfielder of the Wisla Krakow team that toured Australia in early 1979. Nawalka was the best player in Poland's 1978 World Cup game against West Germany (0-0).

minutes and that Newcastle's Ken Boden, who had only recently returned from a holiday in England, was clearly not fit enough to play. Schaefer said later that the Socceroos appeared to lack the fight, the urgency that had characterised previous national teams.

Wisla won easily, 3-1, with two goals by Kmiecik and one by Krupinski Australia's only goal was engineered by midfielder Joe Picioane who sent an inspired forward pass, just inside the full back, to Peter Sharne. Sharne beat the defence and laid it off to Mark Jankovics who put the ball into the net.

The only real successes in the Australian side were centre backs Tony Henderson, who had only recently transferred from Canberra City to Marconi, and Steve O'Connor of Sydney City, and midfielder John O'Shea of St. George.

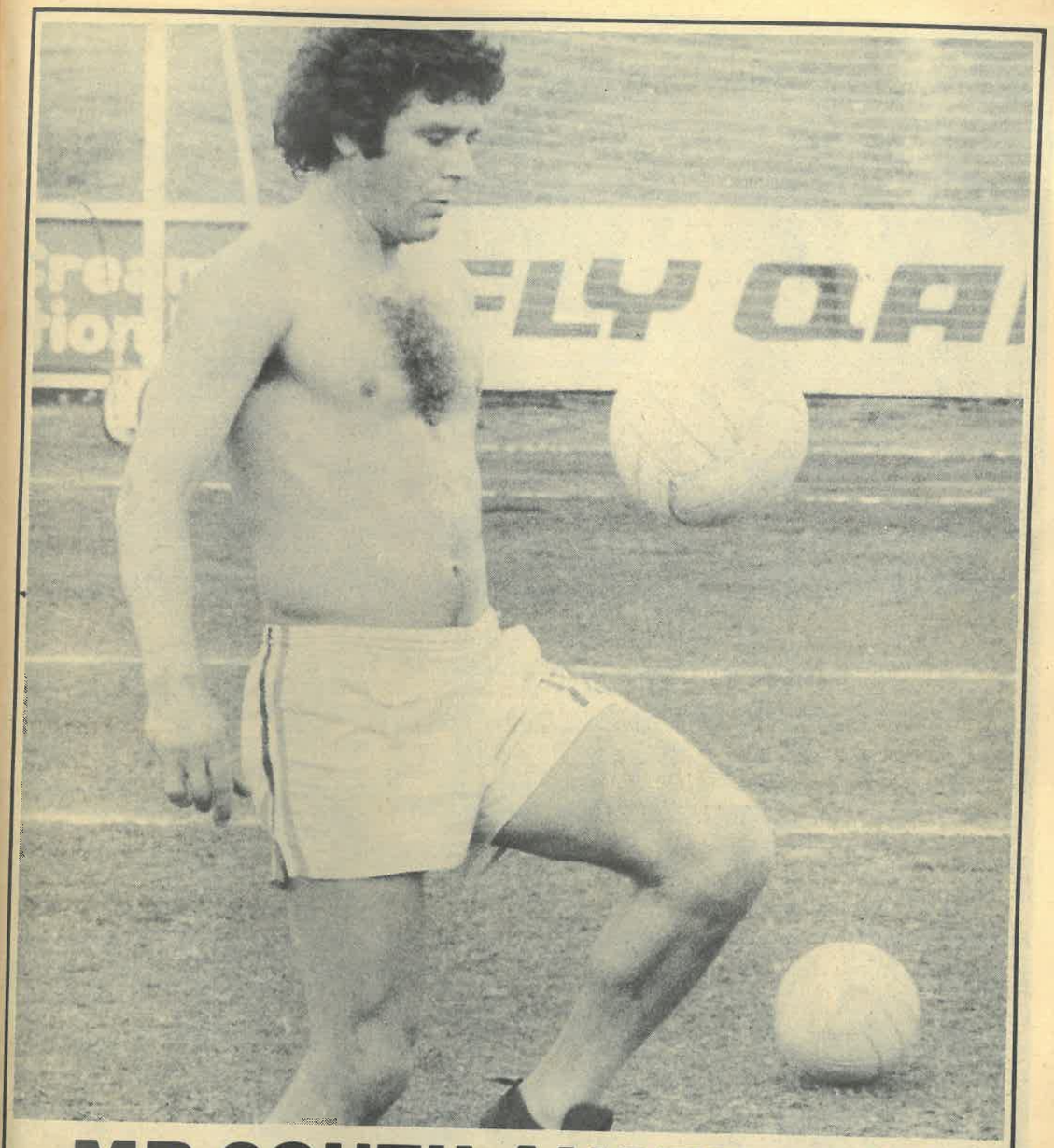
Henderson, Silva and substitutes Ian Souness (Sydney City) and Ken Boden were not naturalised and therefore ineligible to play for Australia in full international matches, but the three were included to "blood" them as World Cup players of the future. Silva had already indicated he would become naturalised and Henderson appears happy to stay in Australia after more than two years here. As for Boden and Souness, we'll have to wait and see. Both had been in Australia for only about a year at the time of the game against Wisla.

Financially, the Wisla match was a flop. The NSW Federation, which promoted the game, was reported to have lost about $5000, as the crowd was only about 5000. The ASF regretted having given permission for the local team to be called an Australian XI. Indeed, it would have been much better for the image of the Socceroos if the team had played under the name of NSW. After all, Steve Perry and Joe Picioane were the only players from interstate.

Greek internationals Mike Galakos (left) and Anton Antoniadis (right) — they toured with Olympiakos in late 1978 and played against PSL combined teams that included many of the Socceroos.

The Australians before their 1-3 loss to Wisla Krakow in Sydney in early 1979. Standing from left: Raul Blanco (assistant coach), Aulden Brown (NSW Federation Secretary), Steve O'Connor, Murray Barnes, Paul Degney (obscured), Tony Henderson, Mark Jankovics, Allan Maher, Michael Fraser, Phil O'Connor, Kevin Mullen, Les Scheinflug (coach); front: masseur, Joe Picioane, John O'Shea, Peter Sharne, Steve Perry, Hilton Silva, Ken Boden, Ian Souness.

Two of touring Wisla Krakow's Polish internationals, Kaz Kmiecik (left) and Zdsislaw Kapka train for their match against Australia in Sydney. Wisla won 3-1.



MR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

JOHN PERIN, probably the greatest player South Australia has produced. He was honored in early 1979 by Adelaide City, which commissioned a sculpture of him in recognition of his 15 years' service with the club.

Perin, a midfielder, was on Australia's 1967 tour of Asia and the 1969 World Cup campaign, as well as the 1970 world tour, but was not a first-team regular.

In 1975 the coach of Polish club Legia Warsaw paid Perin a tribute by saying he was better than the mid-field players in the national team of the time. Perin had played a "blinder" in South Australia's victory over Legia in Adelaide.

• *The icy gaze of coach Rale Rasic (right) tells the story of the rift between him and Billy Vojtek (left) during the latter stages of the 1970 tour.*

THE LIGHTER SIDE

• *Socceroos in Mexico during the 1970 World tour, from left: Billy Vojtek, Roger Romanowicz, Dennis Yaager, John Perin, Dave Keddie and Peter Wilson.*

At their Mexico hotel during the 1970 world tour, some of the Socceroos decided it would be fun to tip buckets of water from the seventh floor, onto team mates approaching the front door.

It became a ritual during the time the Australians were in Mexico, so much so that every player would glance prudently skywards before venturing towards the doorknob.

So other prey had to be found, and it took the form of a local businessman, immaculately dressed, accompanied by an elegant lady in something from the latest Cardin collection.

Both stormed into the lobby, drenched to the skin, shouting: "I'll sue, I'll sue!"

There are many such anecdotes depicting the lighter side of the Socceroos. One that isn't quite as funny deals with the player who pocketed an expensive ring from a shop in Hong Kong and was stupid enough to try to sell it to another shop four doors down. The shopkeeper he approached was a friend of the first, and after a phone call to the police from a back room, the player was taken away and locked up. Team manager John Barclay had a hell of a time persuading the police to let the player go, while the plane waited at the airport to fly the team to its next destination.

The Greeks who visited in 1969 were subjected to such strict discipline that they weren't allowed to drink alcohol, even at a reception for them after a match in Melbourne. Greeks and Australians were seated alternately at the reception and the Australians, sympathetic to their

• *The jubilant Socceroos leave the field after having won the 1967 Vietnam National Day tournament in Saigon. From left: Alan Westwater, Manfred Schaefer, Gary Wilkins, Ron Corry, Ray Richards, Tom McColl, Ted De Lyster, Stan Ackerley.*

• *The Socceroos outside an Athens night club in 1970, standing from left: George Blues, Greek official, Dennis Yaager, John Doyle, Billy Vojtek, a supporter; front: John Warren, John Roche, Dave Keddie, Les Scheinflug (assistant coach), Mike Denton, Manfred Schaefer, Rale Rasic (coach), Peter van Rijn (masseur).*

• *A shot of the players Billy Vojtek describes as the "tourists" of the 1970 trip, because they rarely played. From left: Lou Gautier (reporter), Sandy Irvine, Tom Patrick (official), Roger Romanowicz, Harry Williams, John Perin, Dennis Yaager. Vojtek joined the "tourists" after a clash with coach Rale Rasic.*

From left: Col Curran, Peter Ollerton and Ernie Campbell give the thumbs up sign for "she'll be right" on arrival in Hamburg for the 1974 World Cup finals.

visitors' thirst, slipped them a few sips when the bosses weren't looking. Many of those Greeks were swaying noticeably as they left that reception, much to the concern of the officials who feared some kind of epidemic.

One of the greatest Socceroos, Manfred Schaefer, has a story to tell about Australia's match against Greece in Brisbane. "One of the opposing midfielders kept kicking Australia's Danny Walsh," Schaefer recalls. "Later Walsh was flattened from behind and I decided that was enough. I ran nearly the length of the field and landed a right hook on the jaw of the spiteful Greek. Muhammad Ali would have been proud of that punch and everyone at the ground, bar the referee, saw it. But despite laying out the opponent, I was voted best and FAIREST player of the match by a panel of soccer writers! I was presented with a beautiful trophy which I still have."

Tours inevitably are laced with larrikinism, the release valve for tension. Alan Marnoch was the funny man of the team in 1969. He had the ability to mimic various people and was excellent at imitating the voice of coach Joe Vlasits. Schaefer tells it this way:

"We were in Mozambique in 1969, the weather was hot as hell and the players spent the whole day by the hotel pool. Just as the hottest part of the day was approaching, there was a call on the poolside phone for one of the squad members. Four players were then told 'Uncle' Joe was on the phone and that he wanted them to get into their full uniform – trousers, blazer and tie. They were to meet him in the hotel lobby within 10 minutes, to go to an official function.

"The foursome trooped off and returned fully attired 10 minutes later. They were sweating like pigs in the steamy conditions and they really blew their cool when Marnoch rolled up in the lobby and told them it was he who had sent the call."

Billy Vojtek, the Socceroos' mercurial winger for many years, remembers that on the 1967 tour it was sheer folly to leave your hotel door open or even to leave your key in the door. "The other players would tear your room apart," he says. "Referee Tony Boskovic and I were sharing a room in Kuala Lumpur. When we got back one afternoon, the place looked as if a bomb had hit it. They'd done a great demolition job, even to the extent of screwing the legs off the beds. Tony and I had to sleep on mattresses on the floor for the remainder of the stay."

• *Johnny Warren leads the Australian team onto the field for a 1967 match in Saigon. Behind him are: Roger Romanowicz, Alan Westwater, Ray Baartz, Billy Vojtek, Attila Abonyi, Manfred Schaefer, Stan Ackerley.*

• *Roger Romanowicz makes a save in a match against New Zealand on the 1967 Asian tour. At left is Frank Micic and second from right is Dick van Alphen.*

Vojtek is one of several players to have clashed with the coach on tour.

"In Rhodesia, in 1969, John Perin and I went out and we didn't get back until after curfew, so coach Joe Vlasits left us out of the first match against Rhodesia. Willie Rutherford, who had been out with us, didn't come home until 6 in the morning, but he told Vlasits he had got up early and been for a run along the beach."

On the 1970 world tour, Vojtek again got into trouble, this time with Rale Rasic.

"Of the 18 players in the full squad, 13 were selected to fly from England to Dublin for a match against the League of Ireland," Vojtek says. "The rest were to stay in London. I had been playing pretty well, so I got upset when Rasic told me that I'd play only in the second half in Ireland. I got more and more angry and even my room mates agreed it was ridiculous to leave me out for the first half.

"So I decided not to take my boots to the ground. I simply left them in the hotel room, because I was so angry. I'll never forget the scene in the dressing rooms. Rasic asked me why I wasn't changing and I told him I'd forgotten my boots. 'Out of the room! Get out!' Rasic yelled, and I was left watching the game up in the grandstand, freezing in the cold. I was so ashamed I almost walked back to the hotel. I was ashamed to face the others. I now realise of course that Rasic had every right to rest me during the first half, or even not to use me at all."

Vojtek was suspended from the remaining tour match against Mexico. He became one of the "tourists" – one of the fringe players who were able to relax and enjoy the tour because they played only now and then. Vojtek was "docked" a week's wages and resorted to pawning his track suit in Mexico.

John Doyle and Dave Keddie also wrecked their international careers by disobeying Rasic. After Rasic had warned all the players to observe the team

curfew in Teheran, he caught Doyle and Keddie coming in late. The story goes that Rasic was hiding behind a sofa in the lobby, waiting to pounce.

Adrian Alston, who was born in England, offered to show some of the Socceroos around Luton while they were there in 1970. "We were having a look at a few sights in the area," says Manfred Schaefer, "when Alston directed us to a paddock. It was night and the paddock was quite dark. The story went that years earlier, two girls had been murdered in that paddock and that the ghosts of the girls would appear every time there was a full moon.

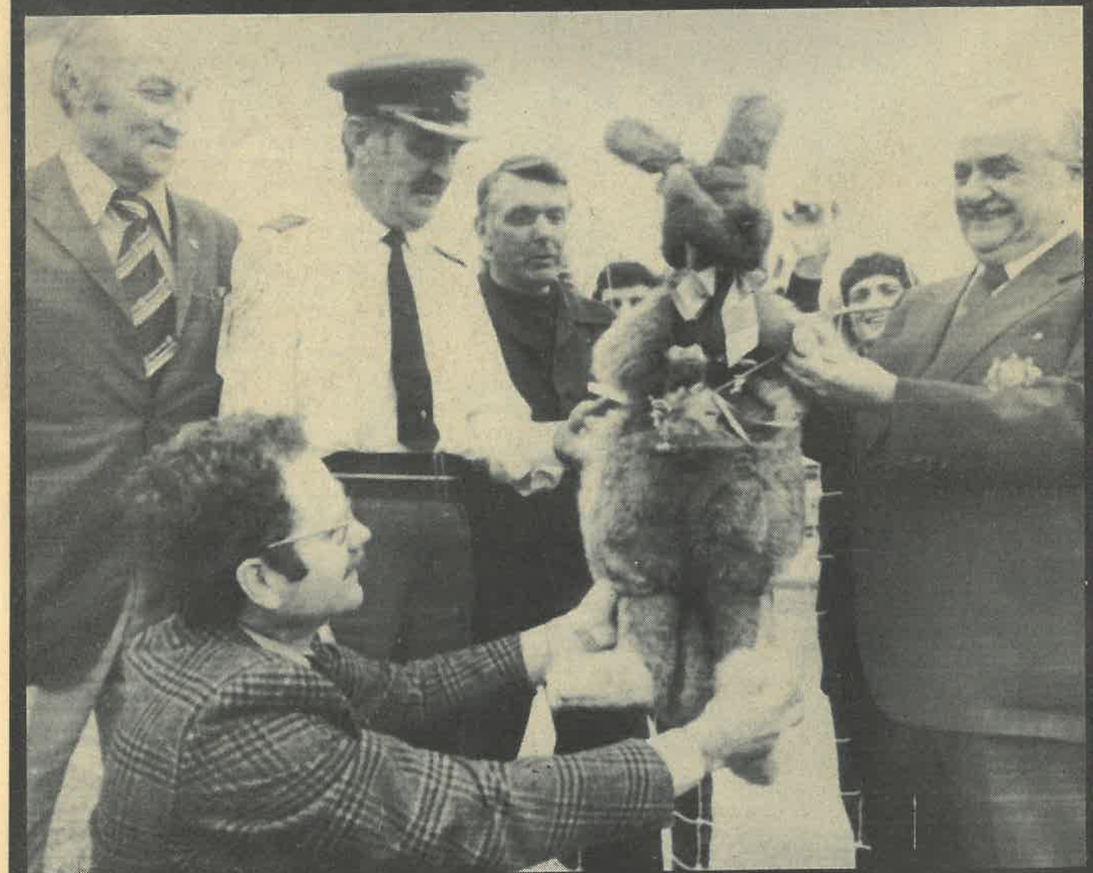
"We looked closely and could see a figure whose teeth and jumper stood out. We got the shock of our lives and even Alston couldn't explain what was happening.

"Then, out of the dark, walked Harry Williams wearing a white jumper. He had taken a short cut to catch up with us and after we had explained why we were a little pale, Harry saw the funny side."

Goalkeeper Jack Reilly says that Williams, being the only Aborigine in the squad, was the subject of good-natured jibes like: "Come out of the shadows, we can't see you," or "If you don't watch it I'll give you a white eye."

Reilly also has a story about man mountain Col Bennett, the massive defender now with Brisbane Lions. It seems that during a training session, the ball rolled out of play and came to rest against a long piece of six-by-four red gum. Bennett raced up to the ball but his mighty kick hit the red gum instead. Reilly says that piece of wood travelled almost as far as Bennett would have sent the ball!

Incidentally, Reilly is reported to be the Socceroo card champion. At a game called three-card brag, which attracted betting pools of up to $80 a time, Reilly was a regular winner. Little wonder then, that he's so successful in business as well.



Australian Soccer Federation president Sir Arthur George (right) presents a souvenir kangaroo to the deputy director of the Berlin Zoo, Dr Reinhard Goeltenboth (kneeling) during Australia's visit to West Germany for the 1974 World Cup finals. Others in the picture, from left: interpreter Kurt Roessler, Group Commander J. Wilson from Lancashire and Australian team manager John Barclay.

They also served . . . .

JIM ADAM (top left) forward, played in England for Luton, Aston Villa and Stoke, in Scotland for Falkirk and in Melbourne for South Melbourne Hellas. Represented Australia gainst Everton in 1964 and was assitant to national coach Joe Venglos for the series against Scotland in 1967. Has also been Victorian State coach and coach of Croatia, Hakoah, Melbourne, Makedonia (Vic), West Adelaide, Fitzroy (now Heidelberg) and APIA.

ARCHIE BLUE (left) midfielder, played professionally for Exeter in England and for Hearts in his native Scotland before joining Footscray J.U.S.T. in 1962. Also played for Slavia before joining Sydney club APIA in 1966. Represented both Victoria and NSW and played for Australia on its 1965 tour and against Scotland in 1967.

JIM ARMSTRONG (above) striker, retired from soccer in late 1978 after having scored a Victorian State League record 152 goals during his 12-year career with Hakoah, South Melbourne Hellas and Juventus. He was the league's top scorer in 1972 and 1974, played 10 games for Victoria and five for Australia. He is pictured leading Frans Berens of Ajax (Vic) to the ball.

ROGER ROMANOWICZ, goalkeeper, first represented Australia on the 1967 Asian tour and came back into favor under Rale Rasic for the 1970 World tour. Played his last game for Australia against Dundee in Adelaide in 1972. Born in Germany, Romanowicz came to Australia with his parents at the age of two. He played for Polonia Adelaide and transferred from there to Adelaide City.

BOGDAN NYSKOHUS, full back, brother of Socceroo John Nyskohus and, like John, joined Adelaide City from Lion Adelaide. Named at right back in "Soccer Action's" 1978 Team of the Year, Bogdan was on Australia's 1972 tour of Asia. He is pictured at left, covering his goalkeeper Peter Marshall in a league match.

BILLY COOK (left) centre back or full back, joined Victorian club Slavia from Kilmarnock in Scotland and played in the Slavia team that won the 1963 Australia Cup. Cook was one of the best players of Australia's 1965 tour of Asia, which included the two World Cup games against North Korea. He is pictured clearing the ball in front of APIA's Johnny Giacometti. At rear is John Sanchez.

HAMMY McMEECHAN, midfielder, a Scot who played senior soccer in England for Carlisle United and Exeter City, and in Australia for Slavia, Croatia (Vic), West Adelaide, Juventus (Vic) and Western Suburbs (NSW). Was on Australia's 1965 tour and is now a coach.

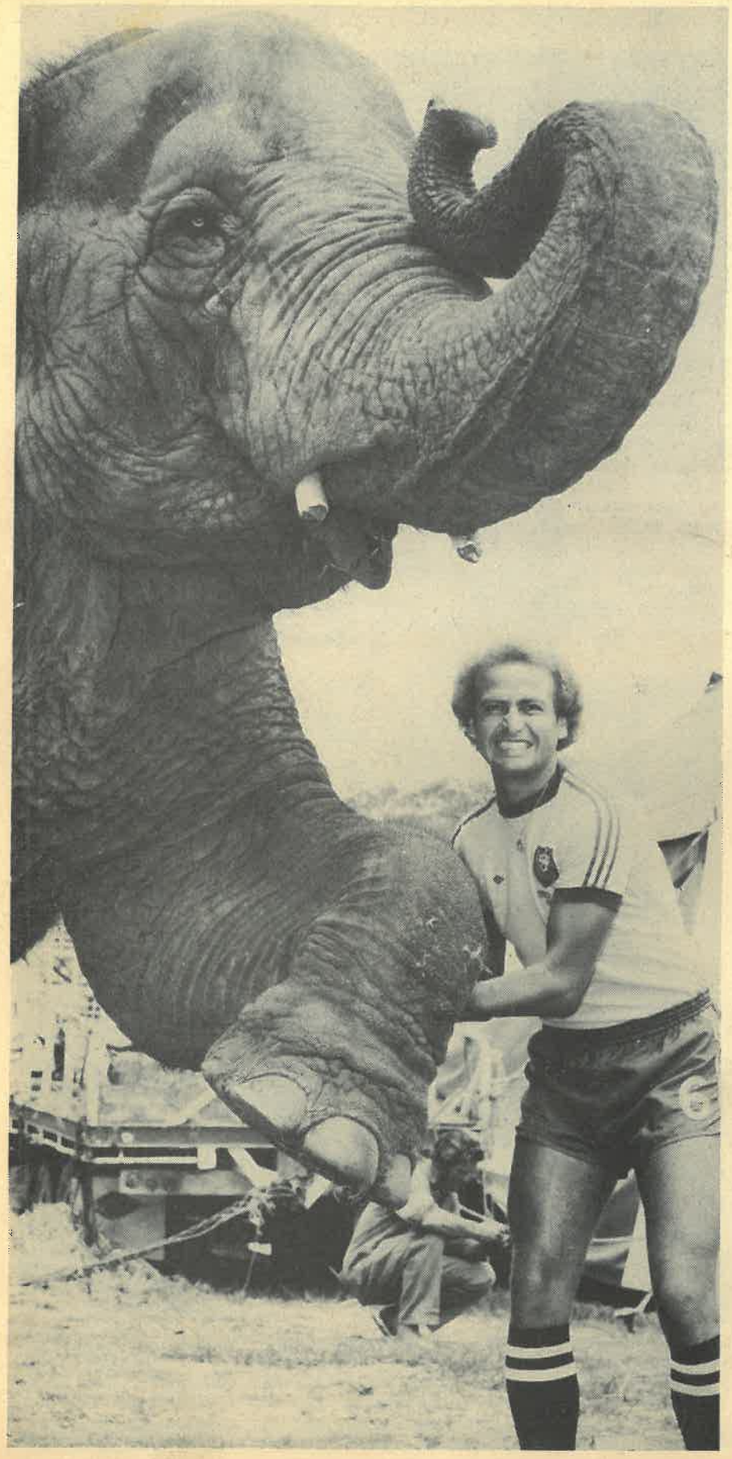
DAVID ZEMAN, centre back, born in Czechoslovakia but learned his soccer in the Sydney suburb of Ryde and was groomed to stardom by Prague (NSW). Represented NSW before being selected to Australia's 1969 World Cup squad.

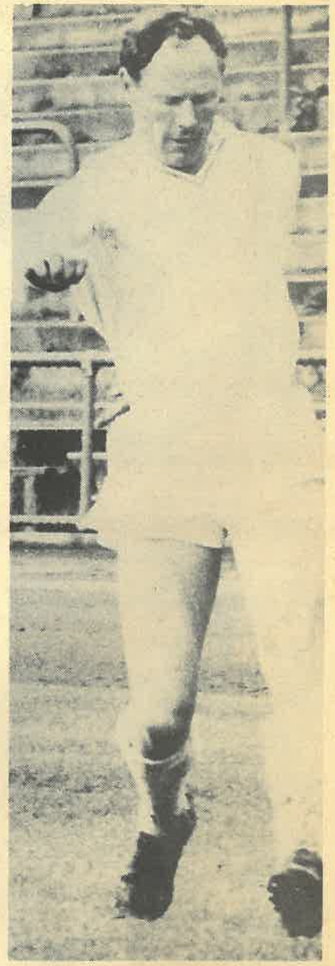
ALAN AINSLIE, midfielder, English-born Ainslie made his Socceroo debut against the Israeli touring team in 1971 and was called back as a full back against Hong Kong in 1976. Scored the winning goal against Israel in Sydney. Came from England to join St. George from where he switched to Western Suburbs and then to Sydney Olympic.

DANNY WALSH, midfielder, came to Australia as a migrant from Exeter (England) and approached Hakoah-Easts (Sydney City) for a trial which he passed with flying colors. Had a meteoric rise in 1966 when he played for NSW and Australia against AS Roma. Played in the 1969 World Cup qualifying series.

NIGEL SHEPHERD, right back, came to Australia from Scottish club Airdrie in 1963 and spent four successful seasons there before moving to South Sydney Croatia where he became captain. Was on Australia's 1965 expedition into Asia for the World Cup qualifying games against North Korea. Shepherd is pictured, standing, fourth from right, in the great Slavia team of 1963. Other Socceroos in the photo are Billy Cook (standing, fifth from left), Stan Ackerley (standing, second from right) and Hammy McMeechan (front, second from right).

MAX TOLSON, striker, one of the most accomplished players produced by the NSW south coast, Tolson spent eight months with English club Workington where he became the team's regular striker. Earlier, he had starred with his Wollongong club South Coast United, then coached by Jim Kelly, who also coached the Socceroos. Tolson drew enthusiastic praise from Moscow Dynamo's legendary goalkeeper Lev Yashin after a NSW v Dynamo match in 1970, and was later included in the Australian squad by Rale Rasic. Tolson also spent a season under Rasic at Marconi before returning to Wollongong. He was in Australia's 1974 World Cup squad. Tolson is pictured in a World Cup match against Cha Bum Keun of South Korea.





DON HODGSON (above) midfielder, one of Victoria's longest-serving players, who played with distinction for George Cross and Box Hill. Played against Chelsea in Melbourne in 1965.

AGENOR MUNIZ (left) midfielder, joined Hakoah - Easts (Sydney City) from Brazilian club Vasco Da Gama in 1971 and played with distinction in midfield and on the wing. Had a season on loan to Pan Hellenic (Sydney Olympic) and became a Socceroo for the 1975 series against the USSR. Switched to Adelaide City in early 1977 for $15,000, then an Australian record fee. Muniz is pictured doing some "heavy training" before an international match.

ALEX "SANDY" IRVINE, centre back, came from Scotland in 1970 to join Victorian club Juventus which won the State League championship, Dockerty Cup and State League Cup that year. Chosen almost immediately to represent Victoria, he was also selected to the Australian squad that toured the world in 1970. After many seasons with Juventus, he switched to Frankston City and is now player coach of Morwell Falcons (Vic). Irvine is pictured (centre) with coach Rale Rasic (left) and Jimmy Mackay in Mexico.

KAZ KOWALEC, forward, former Polish B international, who played for Polonia (Vic) from 1963 until 1971 when he was 39 years old. He coached Polonia from 1968 to 1972, and was later team manager of Slavia. Played for Polish First Division club LKS Lodz and represented Australia against Everton in 1964.

MIKE JURECKI, forward, represented Poland at B level before coming to Australia to join Polonia (Vic) in 1960. Became captain of the Victorian team and later transferred to Slavia. Played for Australia against Everton in 1964. Jurecki is pictured (right) in action for Victoria against Moscow Torpedo in 1965.

DAVE HARDING, midfielder, selected by Rale Rasic for the games against Uruguay in early 1974 and was a member of the squad that went to West Germany for the World Cup finals. Was on the world tour of 1976 and played in the 1977 World Cup qualifying series,missing a penalty in the match against Iran in Melbourne. Iran won 1-0. Born in Liverpool, England, he came to Australia in 1968 to join Pan Hellenic from where he transferred to Western Suburbs. From there he joined Toongabbie. Harding is pictured (left) having a shot saved by goalkeeper Byoung Ho Yung in the World Cup qualifying match against South Korea in Sydney in 1977. In the middle is Korean midfielder Cho Young Jeng.

BILLY ROGERS, midfielder, born in South Africa, he played Australian Rules football in Melbourne before joining Sunshine City from where he transferred to Melbourne, then coached by Rale Rasic. A regular goalscorer with Melbourne, he was snapped up by Sydney club Auburn where he spent three seasons before switching to APIA where he teamed up with Peter Ollerton and Terry Butler, also Socceroos. He returned to Victoria to join South Melbourne Hellas in early 1977 and retired after the 1978 season. One of Rogers' matches for Australia was the 2-2 draw with Pele's Santos in 1972.

RICARDO CAMPANA – forward, brilliant ball-playing Argentinian who could place a ball on a sixpence from 30 metres. Campana was the driving force behind APIA's 1965 2-0 grand final victory against St George. He played for the Australian eleven against AS Roma in 1966.

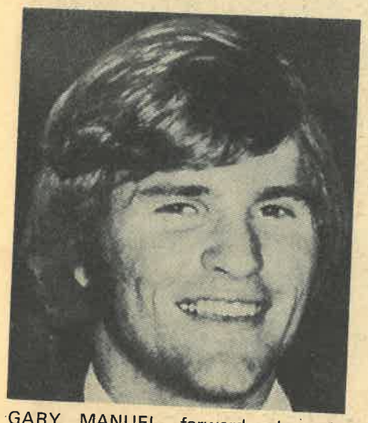
ROY BLITZ, forward, played for Pan Hellenic and Prague, represented NSW many times and was in Australia's 1965 World Cup squad.

GEORGE BLUES, foward, was the first winner, in 1970, of the NSW Rothmans Medal as the best and fairest State League player. Played for Dundee in Scotland and also in South Africa before joining APIA. Toured with the Socceroos in 1970. Blues is pictured (right) in action against the English FA in 1971.

TOMMY McCOLL, forward, served his apprenticeship with London club Chelsea. Came to Australia to join Adelaide Juventus (Adelaide City) from where he transferred to Juventus (Vic). He played in the all-conquering Juventus team of 1970 and also played in the Victorian side under Rale Rasic. He was top scorer of Australia's 1969 World Cup campaign. McColl is pictured (right) in a World Cup qualifying match against Japan in Seoul in 1969.

ALAN WESTWATER, midfielder, migrated from Scotland as a boy and returned there in 1963 for two years as a professional with Stirling Albion. Played for Australia against Scotland before going on the 1967 Asian tour. Was with the Pan Hellenic club. Westwater is pictured leaping over the slush of Saigon's Cong Hoa ground in a chase for a partially submerged ball.

JOHN McDONALD, midfielder, former Hibernian (Scotland) star, who also played for Montrose and Raith Rovers before coming to Australia where he played for Auburn, APIA, St George and Sutherland. Won two Rothmans Medals — in 1973 while with Auburn and 1975 while with Sutherland. Was on Australia's 1972 Asian tour.



GARY MANUEL, forward, showed potential with Prague and then Pan Hellenic. Toured with Australia in 1967 and was in Australia's 1974 World Cup squad but was never a regular in the Socceroo team.

RUDOLFO GNAVI, former Argentinian First Division player who starred with Pan Hellenic (now Sydney Olympic) before transferring to St George for $9000 in early 1977. Played one game for Australia against the USSR under coach Brian Green in 1975. He is pictured (right) confronting John Nicolaides of Footscray J.U.S.T.

MIKE DENTON, forward, together with Adrian Alston, Attila Abonyi and Johnny Warren, helped make up the most deadly attack St George has had. When work forced him to move to Tasmania, he became player-coach of Burnie Spartans. Denton scored six goals on Australia's 1970 world tour. He is pictured (left) in action against Japan during St George's participation in an international tournament in Tokyo. At right is team mate Alan Ainslie.

HERBERT NINAUS, forward, capped for Austria before coming to Sydney where he scored 240 goals from 1960 to 1967, for Prague and Hakoah. He was one of the "poached" players over whom Australia was suspended from FIFA, and he played for Australia against Everton.

AUDATO IGLESIAS, goalkeeper, played for five seasons in the mighty Real Madrid team before coming to Australia to join APIA. Played for Australia against Everton in 1964. The picture shows Herbert Ninaus and Audato Iglesias groping for the ball during the first Australia Cup final at Wentworth Park, on November 21, 1965. The match was drawn 1-1 and Hakoah won the replay 2-1.

Rudi Gutendorf shields the ball from South Melbourne's Alan Davidson during a training session with the Australian under 19 team.

'We'll make it to Spain: Gutendorf

Australia will qualify for the 1982 World Cup finals in Spain. So says dynamic national coach Rudi Gutendorf.

"Make no mistake. We will make it to Spain. Australia reached the finals in West Germany in 1974, so there is no reason that we can't do it again," he says.

"We will have a lot of opposition from the oil-rich nations of the Middle East.

"The Sheikhs of these nations have it in their power to naturalise star players from overseas virtually overnight and thus make them eligible for their particular national team.

"This will present us with an enormous problem but from what I saw of the Australians in 1974, they have great potential and a fierce will to win.

"I will direct every endeavour and made every sacrifice for my product, and that product is the Australian national team."

Gutendorf said it was important for Australian soccer to develop idols like Franz Beckenbauer and Johan Cruyff who young players can look up to.

"The only way such idols can be created is by having a national team that will qualify for the World Cup finals in 1982," he said.

"If we can do this, we will give youngsters the inspiration to take up soccer and to become stars, just like the Socceroos.

"They will see the game on television, they will wonder at the ability of the national players **and they will have an aim for the future".**

In an article for "SOCCER ACTION", Gutendorf described the style of soccer he wants Australia to play.

"These days one can't win with fight and physical strength alone. It is important also to use modern techniques and cleverness," he wrote.

"All technical possibilities have to be brought to full development and individual skills have to be utilised for the benefit of the team.

"But that does not mean the game doesn't have to be fought out to exhaustion as well.

"It is essential to place great value on the technical training of the players.

"The changeover from attack to defence and vice versa has to be made lightning fast at the right time and in perfect order.

"The greater the discipline and order in a team, the more one player can rely on another.

"The defence player can engage in an attack without worries because he can be sure his team mate will back him up and protect the open space. This has to be practised all the time.

"My national team players have to be utility players both in defence and attack. We have to work hard to perfect this ability.

"Our aim must be: At the place of action (where the ball is) we must have one more man than the opposition.

"Every player has to be prepared to make his sprints at least with the same speed (with and without the ball) as his direct opponent.

"Furthermore, he has to force this opponent to run after him, to make life difficult for him.

"The midfield is not to be bridged with dribbling. It has to be bridged with long, deep trough passes to the strikers.

"Mistakes have to be accepted, because all this is not easy and interception by the opponent is the danger.

"Dribbling and holding the ball is a tactical crime. It costs time which the opponent uses to form a tight defence. In the midfield, the ball has to move, not the player, because the ball is faster than the player.

"Generally, in modern soccer, attack is often launched with only two front strikers and because of that, the midfield is strengthened.

"I think that against two front strikers I need only two defensive players plus a libero.

"To counter-balance the opposition's midfield I thus strengthen my midfield even more.

"In my midfield, I put one or two men who can play offensively and constructively to give me a positive advantage.

"The libero in the opponents' defence has to be kept busy, mainly by the centre forward, so that he can't become offensive.

"Our front strikers have to occupy the full width of the field constantly. This way the opponents' full backs are kept back and on the sidelines and a wide avenue to goal is created for us.

"The wing players have to present themselves as wide as possible; their shoes have to be white from the chalk of the sidelines.

"They have to gain control over the game and our attacks have to be carried out over the wings. At least one winger always has to be free in the outside position if we use two strikers.

"After the attack has been launched on one side and the opponents' libero has been tricked to the ball-side, the attack must be changed quickly, so as to pull as many defenders as possible out of position.

Rudi Gutendorf first saw the Socceroos when they played in the 1974 World Cup finals in East Germany. The are pictured lining up for their first game, against East Germany in Hamburg, from left: Jimmy Rooney, Col Curran, Manfred Schaefer, Jimmy Mackay, Ray Richards, Johnny Warren, Doug Utjesenovic, Adrian Alston, Branko Buljevic, Jack Reilly, Peter Wilson.

"Thus we tear and split the defence and create scoring chances."

Rudi Gutendorf was born on August 30, 1926, in Koblenz, an old Roman town where the Rhine and the Mosel rivers flow into each other.

His father owned the first driving school in Koblenz and encouraged young Rudi to play soccer at an early age.

"Do sports," said his father, "and you will be better off in life."

So Rudi played soccer whenever he had a minute off and at the age of 17 he played for Tus Neuendorf which was then a leading club.

He served a half year in the German infantry during world war two, before being captured by the Americans and detained as a prisoner of war for a year.

His father, who served as an officer, was killed in the last year of the war.

Rudi came home in 1946. He graduated at Koblenz high school and studied sports at the University of Cologne.

He received his German coaching diploma **from the late Sepp Herberger, the legendary** coach who laid the foundations for Germany's soccer success.

Gutendorf has coached MSV Duisburg, **Schalke 04, VfB Stuttgart, Hamburger SV,** Tennis Borussia, FC Lucerne, St Louis Stars, Valladolla in Spain, Sporting Crystal in Peru, the Chilean national team and has also done developmental coaching in Tunisia, Trinidad, Botswana, Bolivia, Venezuela and Antigua.

About coaching, he says: "This job is exciting, fascinating, challenging – but also dangerous. There are no pension entitlements and you are constantly in the hot seat. In the age of 'ready-made' success formulas and hot-shot headlines, the job has become even harder."

The coaching profession has taken Gutendorf all over the world and brought him together with some of the world's leading personalities – Pele, Puskas, Floyd Patterson, Robert Kennedy, Konrad Adenauer, Willy Brandt, Heile Selassi, Salvatore Allende, Neil Armstrong and others.

He is proud to have been the first West German coach in South America. It happened just after the 1970 World Cup finals. Sporting Crystal, sponsored by the American brewery "Crystal" was on the lookout for a European coach who could add discipline and team work to the Peruvian players' ball skills. FIFA recommended Gutendorf and he got the job.

Under Gutendorf Crystal was on top of the ladder at the half-way mark of the season, but couldn't hang onto top place. It did however win the Peru Cup.

Just after the season, Gutendorf and his wife Ute went on a film expedition into the Peruvian and Brazilian jungle.

Gutendorf was cast in the role of a minor villain in a film called "Aguirre, the God of Anger," made by Werner Herzog and starring German eccentric Klaus Kinski.

In the early sixties, Gutendorf was in Switzerland, coaching Blue Stars Zurich and FC Lucerne – with whom he won the Swiss Cup.

As a result of his success there, he was, in 1963, offered the coaching job at newly-promoted German Bundesliga club MSV Duisburg, for a monthly salary of $800, and a promised bonus of $20,000 for winning the championship and $10,000 for coming second.

Gutendorf's first task was to buy striker Helmut Rahn from Enschede in Holland. Rahn had been a hero of West Germany's 1954 World Cup win.

In an era in which "tactics" were still fairly rigid, Gutendorf made a name for himself by introducing something completely new to German soccer.

He pulled a player out of attack, into defence, creating Germany's first double centre half.

But he did not rely only on defence,. When his team was in possession, it attacked with seven or eight men. The opponents couldn't believe it: Duisburg was defending with forwards and attacking with defenders! Unheard of!

And so Duisburg became the sensation of the very first Bundesliga season, registering results like 4-0 v Karlsruhe, 3-1 v Frankfurt, 2-2 v Schalke and 3-0 v Duesseldorf and finally finishing second in the league in the 1963/64 season.

Gutendorf collected his $10,000 bonus and financed the building of a guest house.

But things did not run smoothly the following year, and Gutendorf and Duisburg eventually parted company. A new club boss imposed a new system on the team – a system which didn't work. Gutendorf gradually reverted back to his old system, but by then it was too late. "I should have stood up for myself from the very start," he says today. "It was a lesson that I learned the hard way."

And so, Gutendorf switched to VfB Stuttgart on March 12, 1965. Stuttgart was struggling in second last place, but under Gutendorf the team improved to avoid relegation. To achieve this aim, he relied on experienced players like Geiger and Waldner, for he still says today: "Only with experienced players can you achieve success. Young players alone cannot do it."

Gutendorf could stand it at Stuttgart for no more than 18 months. He was unhappy that the club turned down his request that the players should give up their jobs. He was also angry that he couldn't get the training headquarters he wanted and that he wasn't allowed to have training on Mondays because it was the groundkeeper's day off.

That made him so livid that he once broke the lock and took his players in anyway.

Right after his Stuttgart adventure, Gutendorf was flown to the United States by the leaders of the American league, which was not affiliated with the FIFA at the time. Gutendorf helped manage the league and became coach of the St Louis Stars.

An American paper wrote: "Rudi Gutendorf is, after Wernher von Braun, the second German who can really give America something new – in this case, soccer."

As part of his promotional gimmicks, Gutendorf played soccer with goalkeeper Gernot Fraydl (ex Hertha BSC) in the middle of Broadway, made countless TV appearances and lectures, took the St Louis stars into the training camp of boxing champ Floyd Patterson and organised a friendly game with Pele's Santos, which was watched by 30,000 people.

But at that time, soccer had not caught on the way it has now in the US. Attendances gradually dwindled and when league president Dick Walsh switched over to baseball, US soccer lost the man who held all the strings.

The crunch for Gutendorf came when the new owner of the St Louis Stars informed him that in future, he wanted to buy players of his own choosing and that he wanted a say in team selection. Gutendorf wouldn't have any of it, and left the US with $150,000 – the pay-out on his three-year contract.

In 1968 he started another successful chapter of his career – this time as coach of Bundesliga club Schalke 04. Gutendorf took Schalke out of the cellar, to near the top of the ladder and then into the semi-finals of the European Cup.

One of his innovations was to pay win and draw bonuses into a savings account for the players, who were told they would receive the money at the end of the season, only if Schalke was not relegated.

It worked, for in the second round, Schalke was the most successful team in the league.

Gutendorf would take his men on training runs at 6 o'clock in the morning. He would jog them purposely past the entrances of the big factories around Gelsenkirchen, explaining later: "The local workers had to see that we also had to work hard for our money – we had to remove the belief that footballers spend half their day lounging around in bed." As a result, the local workers had no qualms about supporting their "fellow workers" when it came to the weekend game.

Gutendorf also arranged what he called "Hearings." To these he invited all club members so they could express their criticisms and grievances. They would do just that, and go home praising their understanding coach.

In training camp, Gutendorf taught not only the arts of soccer, but also the language of English. The man himself can speak English, French, Spanish and German and wanted to dispel the image of the moronic footballer.

Success came to Schalke after Gutendorf had made Reinhard Libuda captain and helped him to return to the national team, and after he had built up the morale of the other leading players Nigbur and Fichtel.

When he took over the club, Schalke had one solitary point. In the end, Schalke came seventh and, apart from reaching the European Cup semis, also reached the final of the German Cup.

But from the very start, Gutendorf had a personality clash with Schalke president Guenter Siebert. A week, or even a day wouldn't go by without an open clash between the two – and the clashes got worse and worse. Schalke beat Dynamo Zagreb 3-1 and 1-0 in the European Cup quarter finals but when Schalke lost 1-5 to Mahcnester City after having won the first leg 1-0, Siebert saw his chance to push Gutendorf to his breaking point. The break came, and Gutendorf left Schalke with $20,000 in his pocket.

SOCCER ACTION

ΣΧΟΛΙΟ ΤΟΥ ΠΑΝΟΥ ΓΕΩΡΓΙΟΥ - ΣΕΛΙΣ 15.

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Rudi Gutendorf: globetrotter

Rudi Gutendorf, one of the most colorful characters in world soccer, may be Australia's new national coach.

It was reported last week on German radio "Deutsche Welle" that Gutendorf had already signed a contract with the ASF.

By LAURIE SCHWAB

A large American company has offered $300,000 sponsorship over five years to help bring a top-line coach to Australia.

He calls himself a "colorful dof". He's an I've-been-everywhere man.

Continued P.14

Rudi Gutendorf at Schalke, with star goalkeepers, from left: Nigbur (later Hertha BSC), Burdenski (Werder Bremen) and Elting (Wuppertaler SV).

Long-term coach needed: Shoulder

By KYLE PATTERSON

Departing Socceroo coach Jimmy Shoulder warns that stability and continuity should be the basis of the Australian coaching set-up.

Giants fight for the big prize

West Germany, Italy, Argentina and Brazil are shaping as the top four of the World Cup, with Peru still looming as the dark horse.

The star of Greece's 2-1 win over an Australian XI at Olympic Park last Sunday was winger Christos Handidis, who scored both his side's goals and gave a dazzling exhibition of skill and speed. He's pictured above (right) taking on Socceroo left back Jim Tansey. Looking on is midfielder Joe Picioane. See full match report and more pictures of the big clash on page 11.

Second round details

Games on television

Continued p14

The "Soccer Action" front page of June 14, 1978 – announcing the appointment of Rudi Gutendorf and marking the departure of Jim Shoulder.

One of Gutendorf's predecessors, Joe Vlasits (second from right) on the bench in Indonesia in 1967. At right is team manager John Barclay. Others from left: Dr Brian Corrigan, Ray Lloyd, Ray Richards and masseur Lou Lazzari.

Chile's Elias Figueroa (No.5), one of the all-time greats of South American soccer, wins a heading duel with Australia's Branko Buljevic in the scoreless draw in West Berlin during the 1974 World Cup finals. On the ground is Australian captain Peter Wilson.

The Socceroos wave goodbye to Hamburg as they prepare to leave for West Berlin, their other 1974 World Cup venue, from left: Ivo Rudic, Dr Brian Corrigan, Col Curran, Branko Buljevic, Doug Utjesenovic, Ray Baartz, Ernie Campbell, Les Scheinflug (assistant coach), John Watkiss.

Before his Schalke adventure, Gutendorf was, from 1960 to 1961, the first German developmental coach. About the same time he was working occasionally as interpreter for Willy Brandt, the mayor of Berlin.

As developmental coach, he was employed by the German Olympic Committee whose programme of sending expert coaches overseas was backed by the German Foreign Office. In this capacity, Gutendorf jumped from country to country, organising seminars, coaching camps, etc. Although the pay was a measly $750 a month, it suited Gutendorf at the time.

he says: "As a coach, I am a short-distance runner, because I am so temperamental. Short engagements suit me perfectly."

In June, 1972, Gutendorf became national coach of Chile. His job was to make sure Chile qualified for the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany.

To this point, Chile had not won an international match for two years but from the start of his reign, until his departure in September, 1973, his team lost only once. In the Mini World Cup organised to mark the 150th anniversary of the Brazilian Football Association, Chile finished fifth of 32 teams — an astonishing achievement.

Chile's President Salvatore Allende was so pleased that he invited the whole squad to a lavish reception and presented a car to each of them. He gave Gutendorf a semi-trailer, which he immediately sold to by an apartment.

After a stint in Botswana, where his assignment was to form a national team out of nothing, Gutendorf returned to Germany in 1976 to coach newly promoted Bundesliga team Tennis Borussia of Berlin, for a monthly salary of $1500. But he did not know what he had let himself in for. Tennis Borussia had debts of about $600,000 and to alleviate them the club sold star players Stolzenburg to Braunschweig and Siegmann to Bremen.

Stolzenburg's departure left Gutendorf without a striker. Hearing that Swedish ace Benny Wendt was sitting on the bench at Cologne, Gutendorf pestered Cologne coach Hennes Weisweiler until Weisweiler finally agreed to release Wendt to Tennis Borussia.

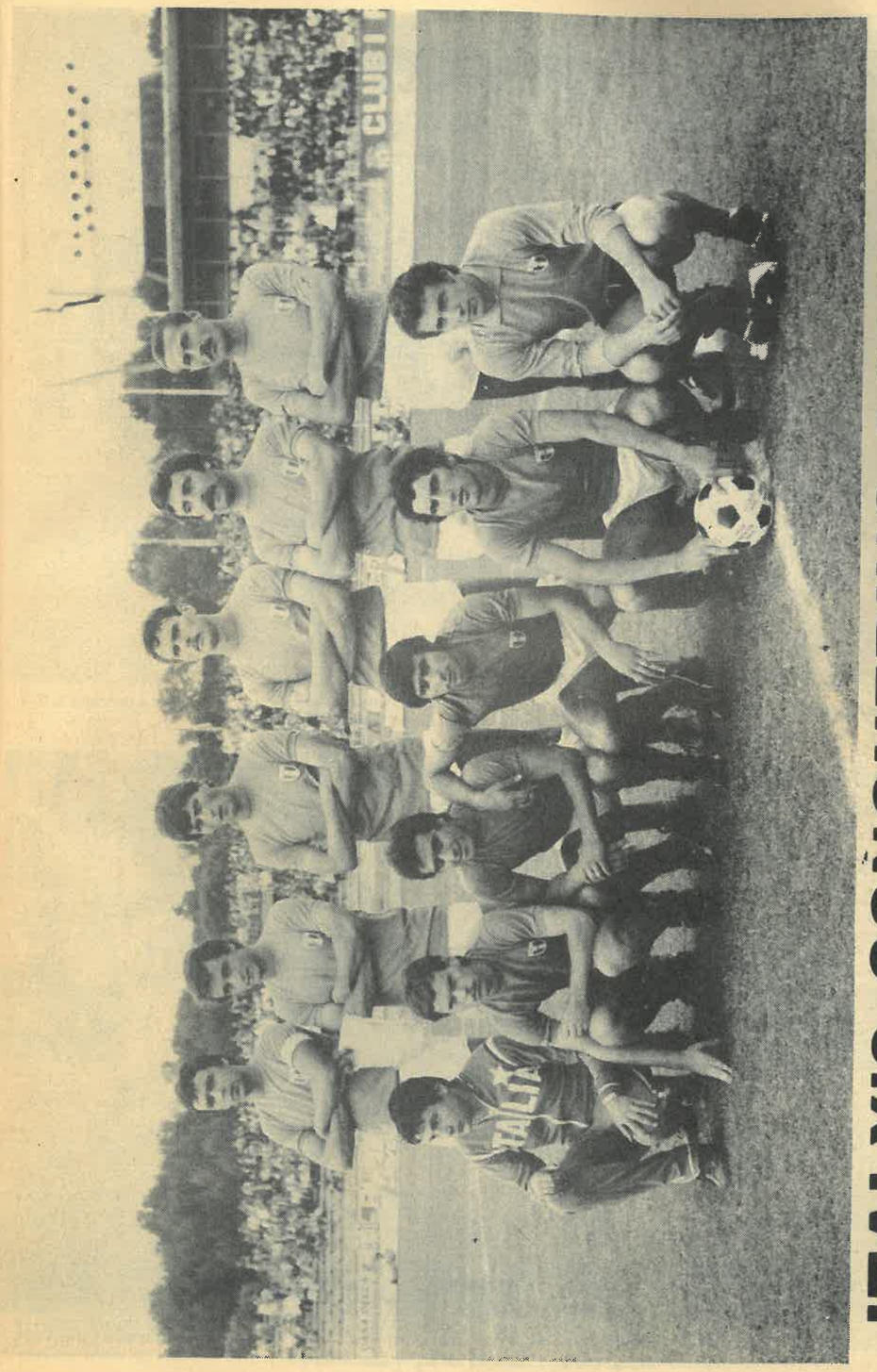
But despite a few more signings, TB didn't really have what it takes, and the club's administration was too amateurish. There were memorable wins over Bayern Munich, Cologne, and Hertha BSC, but without the necessary talent, TB failed to avoid relegation and Gutendorf was off again — this time to join Hamburger SV, for a monthly salary of $3500.

At Hamburg, Gutendorf teamed up with another soccer eccentric — president Dr Peter Krohn. It was the Schalke story all over again and after numerous personality clashes, Gutendorf was sacked. In the meantime, though Hamburg had bought England captain Kevin Keegan from Liverpool.

Keegan's early days at Hamburg were miserably ones. Gutendorf says the other players were jealous of the English star and simply cut him out of each game.

$2 MILLION OPPONENT

Trevor Francis, who became Britain's first million-pound (almost $2 mil.) footballer when he transferrred to Nottingham Forest in early 1979. Francis played in the Birmingham City team that beat Australia 4-1 in England in 1976. He scored two of the goals.



ITALY'S CONQUERING SOLDIERS

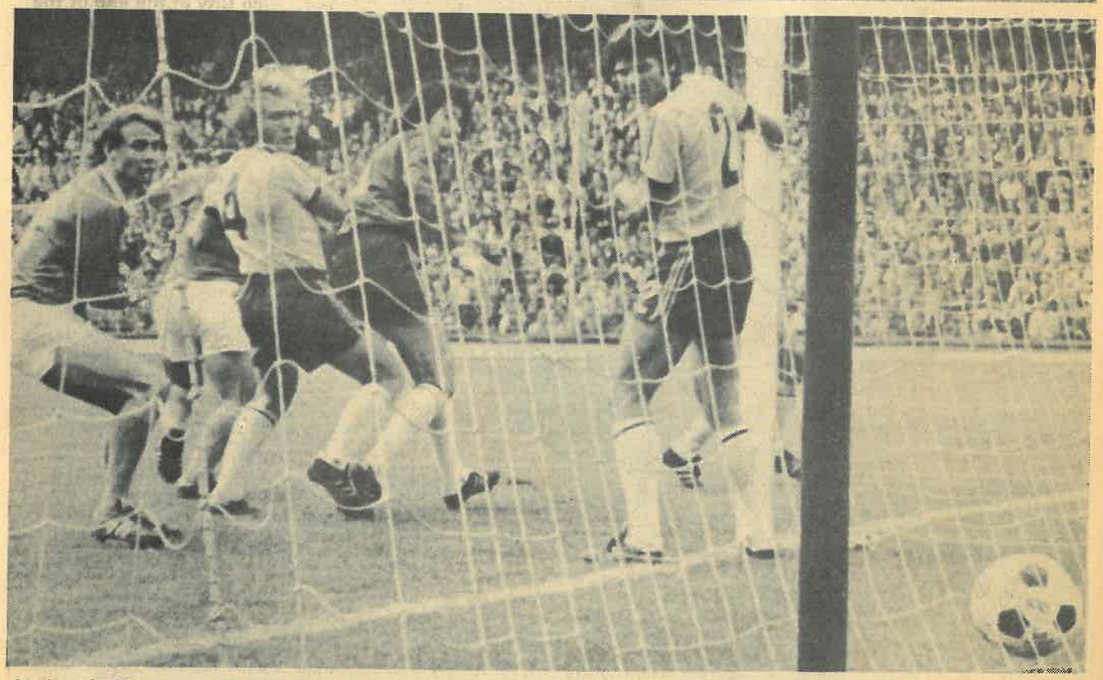
The Italian Army visited Australia in 1976 and won a decisive 3-1 victory over the Socceroos in Sydney. The soldiers pictured are, standing from left: Vanello, D'Amico, Mei, Fontolan, Pruzzo, Zuccheri. Front: masseur, Chinellato, Desolati, Conti, Sala, Tancredi.

George Keith (left) covers goalkeeper Ron Corry who dives at the feet of Yusuyuki Kuwahara in Australia's 3-1 victory over Japan in Melbourne in 1968.

Dave Harding (right) looks surprised as the ball is taken by Cha Bum Keun (No. 11) of South Korea in the 1977 World Cup game in 1977. At left is Attila Abonyi.

A classic training shot of Socceroo goalkeeper Allan Maher, who has been representing his country since 1974.

THE MENACE OF MUELLER



In the 1974 World Cup, the Socceroos had the misfortune of confronting the great German striker Gerd Mueller.
TOP: This shot is blocked by Doug Utjesenovic (right) with Australia's goalkeeper Jack Reilly stranded.
ABOVE: This time Mueller's header is successful and it gives West Germany its third goal in the 3-0 victory. From left: Bernd Hoelzenbein, Mueller (obscured), Manfred Schaefer, Jack Reilly, Doug Utjesenovic

The Australian team that lost 0-3 to Mexico at the magnificent Azteca Stadium in Mexico City at the end of the Socceroos' 1970 world tour, standing from left: Ray Richards, Peter Wilson, Jack Reilly, Sandy Irvine, Adrian Alston, Jimmy Mackay; front: Johnny Warren, George Blues, John Roche, Mike Denton, Col Curran.

THE Australian schoolboys team that toured the United States in 1978. Many of them graduated to the national under 19 squad for the world youth championship qualifying series of 1978-79. How many will become Socceroos? The players are, from left, standing: Malcolm McClelland (Northern NSW), Peter Katholas (NSW), Charlie Yankos (Vic), Eddie Krncevic (Vic., now NSW), Tony Pezzano (NSW), Greg Woodhouse (NSW), Mike Milovanovic (ACT), Mike Boogaard (Nth NSW), Peter Raskopoulos (NSW), John Spanos (WA), Tom O'Halloran (Vic), Front: Jack Dodd (NSW, team manager), Arthur Sharp (WA), Ian Hunter (NSW), George Christopoulos (Vic), Bobby McLachlan (coach, Vic), Danny Moulis (ACT), Paul Iannace (SA), Paul Kay (NSW), Bill Hunter (Nth NSW,tour leader).

Two international goals and one miss by Peter Ollerton in the 1977 World Cup series: a goal against New Zealand in Sydney (above), a miss against Hong Kong in Adelaide (left) and a goal against Hong Kong in Hong Kong (below).

The Socceroo all-stars

Australia's longest-serving Socceroos since Federation (figures indicate total number of games for Australia and the number of full internationals up to April 1, 1979).

Jack REILLY 35/15

Doug UTJESENOVIC 61/34

Peter WILSON 113/61

Manfred SCHAEFER 72/49

George HARRIS 47/26

John WARREN 62/43

Ray Richards 60/32

Jim ROONEY 84/45

Attila ABONYI 88/58

Ray BAARTZ 59/49

Adrian ALSTON 61/39

Five stars of Pele's team Santos, which played against Australia in Sydney in 1972, from left: Edu, Jair Da Costa, Marinho, Cejas, Brecha.

Iran's Mohammad Adelkhani, once on the books of Bayern Munich, leaps high to head goalwards against Ray Richards and Doug Utjesenovic (right) in the World Cup qualifying match which Australia won 3-1 in Sydney in 1973.

AUSTRALIA'S "A" INTERNATIONAL RECORD

(to April 1, 1979)

1922 v. New Zealand	1-3	(Dunedin)
	1-1	(Wellington)
	1-3	(Auckland)
1923	2-1	(Brisbane)
	2-3	(Newcastle)
	1-4	(Sydney)
1924 v Canada	3-2	(Brisbane)
	0-1	(Sydney)
	4-1	(Sydney)
	0-0	(Newcastle)
	1-4	(Adelaide)
	1-0	(Sydney)
1933 v New Zealand	4-2	(Brisbane)
	6-4	(Sydney)
	4-2	(Sydney)
1936 v. New Zealand	7-1	(Dunedin)
	10-0	(Wellington)
	4-1	(Auckland)
1937 v England (Amateurs)	5-4	(Sydney)
	0-4	(Brisbane)
	4-3	(Newcastle)
1938 v India	5-3	(Sydney)
	4-4	(Brisbane)
	1-4	(Newcastle)
	5-4	(Sydney)
	3-1	(Melbourne)
1947 v South Africa	1-2	(Sydney)
	2-4	(Brisbane)
	3-3	(Sydney)
	5-1	(Newcastle)
	1-2	(Sydney)
1948 v New Zealand	6-0	(Wellington)
	7-0	(Christchurch)
	4-0	(Wellington)
	8-1	(Auckland)
1950 v South Africa	2-3	(Durban)
	1-2	(Johannesburg)
	2-1	(Port Elizabeth)
	2-0	(Capetown)
1950 v Rhodesia	5-0	(Salisbury)
	4-1	(Bulawayo)
1954 v New Zealand	1-2	(Melbourne)
	4-1	(Brisbane)
	4-1	(Sydney)
1955 v South Africa	0-3	(Brisbane)
	0-2	(Melbourne)
	0-8	(Adelaide)
	0-6	(Sydney)
	1-4	(Newcastle)
1956 v India	2-4	(Melbourne) Olympic Games
1956 v India	1-7	(Sydney)
1956 v Japan	2-0	(Melbourne) Olympic Games
1958 v New Zealand	3-2	(Wellington)
	2-2	(Auckland)
1965 v North Korea	1-6	(Phnom-Penh) World Cup
	1-3	(Phnom-Penh) World Cup
v Cambodia	0-0	(Phnom-Penh)
v. Hong Kong	0-1	(Hong Kong)
v. Taiwan	3-1	(Hong Kong)
v. Malaysia	1-0	(Ipoh)
v. Malaysia	3-0	(Ipoh)
1967 v Indonesia	2-0	(Djakarta)
	3-1	(Djakarta)
v. Malaysia	1-0	(Saigon)
	4-0	(Kuala Lumpur)
v. New Zealand	5-3	(Saigon)
v. Singapore	5-1	(Saigon)
v. Singapore	6-1	(Singapore)
v. South Korea	3-2	(Saigon)
v. South Vietnam	1-0	(Saigon)
v. Scotland	0-1	(Sydney)
	1-2	(Adelaide)
	0-2	(Melbourne)
1968 v. Japan	2-2	(Sydney)
	3-1	(Melbourne)
	1-3	(Adelaide)
1969 v. Greece	1-0	(Sydney)
	2-2	(Brisbane)
	0-2	(Melbourne)
v. Japan	3-1	(Seoul) World Cup
	1-1	(Seoul) World Cup
v. South Korea	2-1	Seoul) World Cup
	1-1	(Seoul) World Cup
v. Rhodesia	0-0	(Lorenco Marques) World Cup
	1-1	(Lorenco Marques) World cup
	3-1	(Lorenco Marques) World cup
v. Israel	0-1	(Tel Aviv) World Cup
	1-1	(Sydney) World cup
1970 v. Iran	2-1	(Tehran)
v. Israel	0-1	(Tel Aviv)
v. Greece	3-1	(Athens)
v. Mexico	0-3	(Mexico City)
1971 v. Israel	2-2	(Brisbane)
	1-0	(Sydney)
	1-3	(Melbourne)
1972 v. Indonesia	4-1	(Djakarta)
v. New Zealand	3-1	(Djakarta)
1972 v. South Vietnam	1-0	(Saigon)
v. South Korea	1-1	(Seoul)
	2-0	(Seoul)
v. Philippines	6-0	(Manila)
1973 v. Bulgaria	2-2	(Sydney)
	1-3	(Adelaide)
	0-2	(Melbourne)
v. Iraq	3-1	(Sydney) World Cup
	0-0	(Melbourne) World Cup
v. New Zealand	1-1	(Auckland) World Cup
	3-3	(Sydney) World Cup
v. Indonesia	2-1	(Sydney) World Cup
	6-0	(Sydney) World Cup
v. Iran	3-0	(Sydney) World Cup
	0-2	(Tehran) World Cup
v. South Korea	0-0	(Sydney) World Cup
	2-2	(Seoul) World Cup
	1-0	(Hong Kong) World Cup
1974 v. Uruguay	0-0	(Melbourne)
	2-0	(Sydney)
v. Indonesia	2-1	(Djakarta)
v. Israel	1-2	(Tel Aviv)
v. East Germany	0-2	(Hamburg) World Cup
v. West Germany	0-3	(Hamburg) World Cup
v. Chile	0-0	(West Berlin) World Cup
1975 v. U.S.S.R.	0-0	(Perth)
v. U.S.S.R.	0-3	(Adelaide)
v. U.S.S.R.	1-2	(Melbourne)
v. U.S.S.R.	0-0	(Brisbane)
v. U.S.S.R.	2-3	(Sydney)
v. U.S.S.R.	1-1	(Newcastle)
1976 v. New Zealand	1-0	(Auckland)
v. New Zealand	3-1	(Melbourne)
v. Hong Kong	0-1	(Canberra)
v. Hong Kong	2-0	(Gosford)
v. Indonesia	1-1	(Djakarta)
v. Singapore	1-0	(Singapore)
v. Hong Kong	2-0	(Hong Kong)
v. Israel	1-1	(Tel-Aviv)
1977 v. Israel	1-1	(Melbourne)
v. Israel	1-1	(Sydney)
v. Taiwan	3-0	(Ba, Fiji) World Cup
v. Taiwan	2-1	(Ba, Fiji) World Cup
v. Fiji	0-1	(Suva)
v. New Zealand	3-1	(Sydney) World Cup
v. New Zealand	1-1	(Auckland) World Cup
v. Hong Kong	3-0	(Adelaide) World Cup
v. Iran	0-1	(Melbourne) World Cup
v. South Korea	2-1	(Sydney) World Cup
v. Kuwait	1-2	(Sydney) World Cup
v. South Korea	0-0	(Seoul) World Cup
v. Hong Kong	5-2	(Hong Kong) World Cup
v. Singapore	2-0	(Singapore)
v. Kuwait	0-1	(Kuwait) World Cup
v. Iran	0-1	(Tehran) World Cup
1978 v. Greece	0-1	(Adelaide)

PLAYED 163 WON 72 DREW 32 LOST 49 GOALS FOR 308 GOALS AGAINST 230

Appearances and scorers

Total appearances for Australia since Federation (up to April 1, 1979)

113 Wilson
88 Abonyi
84 Rooney
72 Schaefer
62 Warren
61 Utjesenovic, Alston
60 Richards
59 Baartz
55 Ollerton, Bennett
52 Mackay
47 Harris
44 Harding
43 Vojtek, Williams
42 Byrne
36 Kosmina
35 Reilly
34 Clarke, J. Nyskohus, Muniz
33 Curran, Corry
31 Watkiss
30 Buljevic, S. Ackerley, Barnes
28 Maher
24 Campbell
21 Keith
20 McColl
19 Tolson
18 Tansey
17 Hogg
16 Westwater, Blues
15 Stone
14 Marnoch, Denton
13 Hughes, Marocchi
12 Shepherd, Blue
11 Roche, Yaager, Scheinflug
10 Romanowicz, van Alphen, Fraser.
9 Micic, Cook, Perin
8 Blitz,, J. Anderson, Pearson, Rorke, Walsh, Bell
7 Lloyd, Doyle, McMeechan, Rice
6 Micevski, Rutherford, Irvine, Todd, Manuel
5 B. Nyskohus, Ilott, Sharne, P. O'Connor, Jankovics
4 Roberts, Nuttall, Giacometti, Wilkins, DeLyster, Armstrong, Ainslie, Butler, Milisavljevic, Jones
3 Davies, Grosse, Cummings, Zeman, Johnston, Giles, Edwards, van Blerk
2 Salisbury, Stojanovic, Jurecki, H. Ninaus, Sleight, Herczeg, Morrow, Fuzes, Quested, McKinnon, Rogers, McDonald, Colusso, Russell, Ristovski, Keddie, Perry, J. O'Shea, Picioane.
1 T. Eaton, Laumets, Kalafatidis, Kokoska, Stevenson, Christopoulos, Cole, Meier, Iozelli, Karaspyros, Giampaolo, Senkalski, Mullen, Kolecki, Gnavi, McGrotty, Ray Pocock, Turner, Norman, Kelly, Simpson, Reid, Malloy, Ireson, Stankovic, Campana, Holden, Lord, Hrncir, Jaros, Barnett, Adam, Iglesias, Woods, Kowalec, Baumgartner, Reynolds, Pattison, Hodgson, Ivanoff, Morson, Paap, S. O'Connor, Henderson, Degney, Souness, Silva, Boden.

Full international caps since Federation (up to April 1, 1979):

61 Wilson
58 Abonyi
49 Schaefer, Baartz
45 Rooney
43 Warren
39 Alston
34 Utjesenovic
32 Richards
31 Mackay, Vojtek
30 Ollerton
29 Bennett
28 Corry, S. Ackerley
26 Harris
23 Watkiss
22 Buljevic
21 Curran
20 Kosmina, Byrne, Harding
19 Keith, McColl
18 Clarke, J. Nyskohus, Williams
17Muniz, Barnes
16 Tolson
15 Reilly, Campbell, Westwater
14 Maher, Marnoch
13 Hogg
10 Blue, Stone
9 Hughes, Shepherd, van Alphen
8 Marocchi, Fraser
7 Tansey, Micic, Cook, Rorke, Walsh
6 Scheinflug, Lloyd, McMeechan, Rutherford, Todd
5 Romanowicz, Blitz, J. Anderson, Pearson, Rice
4 Blues, Denton, Roche, Ilott, Ainslie, Manuel
3 Perin, B. Nyskohus, Giacometti, Wilkins, DeLyster, Armstrong, P. O'Connor, Jones, Zeman, Johnston, Giles
2 Yaager, Bell, Irvine, Butler, Sharne, van Blerk, Sleight, Herczeg, Fuzes.
1 Doyle, Roberts, Nuttall, Jankovics, Davies, Cummings, Morrow, McDonald, Russell, Ristovski, Mullen, Turner, Kelly

Goalscorers in all games since Federation (up to April 1, 1979):

36 Abonyi
21 Baartz
20 Ollerton
17 Alston
13 Vojtek
12 Kosmina
11 Buljevic
10 Richards, Harding
9 Warren, McColl
7 Barnes
6 Denton, Rooney
5 Mackay
4 Watkiss, Tolson, J. Nyskohus, Blue, Scheinflug
3 H. Ninaus, Westwater, Blues, Keddie, Campbell, Wilson
2 McKinnon, Armstrong, Doyle, Utjesenovic, Bell
1 Blitz, J. Anderson, Pearson, Todd, Johnston, Micic, Schaefer, Rutherford, Irvine, Ainslie, Butler, Curran, Manuel, Cummings, Muniz, Williams, Bennett, Cole, Morrow, Jankovics.

Goalscorers in full internationals only (up to April 1, 1979):

25 Abonyi
18 Baartz
13 Ollerton
8 Vojtek, McColl
7 Alston, Buljevic
6 Kosmina, Warren
5 Richards, Mackay
4 Tolson, Blue, Scheinflug
3 Rooney, Barnes, Campbell, Wilson
2 Harding, Watkiss, Westwater, Utjesenovic
1 J. Nyskohus, Blues, Armstrong, Pearson, Todd, Johnston, Micic, Rutherford, Ainslie, Butler, Curran, Bennett.

ALL THE MATCHES

Australia's games since the formation of the ASF. Matches in capitals denote full internationals:

1964

Tour by Everton (England)

Australia 2 (Ninaus) **Everton 8** in Melbourne

Australia: Lord; Edwards, Salisbury; Hrncir, Stojanovic, Jaros; Jurecki, Barnett, Scheinflug, Ninaus, Adam

Australia 1 (Ninaus) **Everton 5** in Sydney.

Australia: Iglesias; Edwards, Salisbury-Micic, Woods, Scheinflug; Kowalec, Jurecki, Baumgartner, Ninaus, Reynolds.

1965

Tour by Chelsea (England)

Australia 2 (Blitz, Watkiss) **Chelsea 2** in Sydney.

Australia: Roberts; Shepherd, Nuttall, Hughes, Rice, Scheinflug; Blitz, Watkiss, Blue, Anderson, Pearson.

Australia 1 (Watkiss) **Chelsea 1** in Melbourne.

Australia: Roberts; Shepherd, Nuttall; Hughes, Cook, Scheinflug; Blitz, Anderson, Watkiss, Pattison (Hodgson), Pearson.

Tour by Moscow Torpedo

Australian XI 0 Torpedo 2 in Perth.

Australian XI: Ivanoff; Stojanovic, van Blerk; Morson, Paap, Simpson; McMeechan, Reid, Malloy, Ireson, Stankovic.

Australia's tour of Asia World Cup games

AUSTRALIA 1 (Scheinflug pen.) **NORTH KOREA 6** in Phnom Penh.

Australia: Roberts; Shepherd, Ackerley; Hughes, Rice, Scheinflug; Sleight, Anderson, Blue, Watkiss, Todd.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Scheinflug) **NORTH KOREA 3** in Phnom Penh.

Australia: Rorke; Shepherd, Cook, Hughes, Rice, Watkiss; Blitz, Anderson, Herczeg, Scheinflug, Pearson.

Rest of tour

CAMBODIA 0 AUSTRALIA 0 in Phnom Penh.

Australia: Rorke; Shepherd, Ackerley; Hughes (Anderson), Watkiss, Warren; Blitz (Blue), McMeechan, Johnston, Giles, Todd (Sleight).

HONG KONG 1 AUSTRALIA 0 in Hong Kong.

Australia: Rorke; Shepherd, Cook; Hughes, Rice, Watkiss; Pearson, Anderson, Johnston (McMeechan), Warren, Todd.

IAK-STOCKHOLM 2 AUSTRALIA 1 (Anderson) in Hong Kong.

Australia: Roberts; Shepherd, Ackerley; Hughes, Cook, Watkiss; Blitz, Anderson, Blue, Scheinflug, Pearson.

NATIONALIST CHINA (TAIWAN) 1 AUSTRALIA 3 (Blue 3) in Hong Kong.

Australia: Rorke; Shepherd, Ackerley; Hughes, Cook, Watkiss; Blitz, Pearson, Blue, Warren (Herczeg), Todd.

MALAYSIA 0 AUSTRALIA 1 (Pearson) in Ipoh.

Australia: Rorke; Shepherd, Ackerley; Hughes, Cook, Watkiss; Blitz (McMeechan), Anderson (Giles), Blue, Pearson, Todd.

MALAYSIA 0 AUSTRALIA 3 (Todd, Johnston, Scheinflug) in Ipoh.

Australia: Rorke; Shepherd, Ackerley; Watkiss, Cook, Scheinflug; McMeechan, Warren, Blue (Johnston), Pearson, Todd.

1966

Tour by AS Roma (Italy)

Australian X1 1 (Morrow) **AS Roma 1** in Sydney.

Australia: Rorke; Edwards, Nuttall; Hughes, Rice, Watkiss; Morrow, Campana, Giacometti, Walsh, Holden.

1967

Tour by Scotland

AUSTRALIA 0 SCOTLAND 1 in Sydney.

Australia: Fuzes; Nuttall, Marnoch, Watkiss, Cook; Hughes, Westwater; Giles (Giacometti) Warren, Baartz, Blue.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Baartz) **SCOTLAND 2** in Adelaide.

Australia: Rorke; van Blerk, Marnoch, Cook, Sherherd; Hughes, Westwater; McMeechan (inj. sub. Blue), Watkiss, Baartz, Giacometti.

AUSTRALIA 0 SCOTLAND 2 in Melbourne.

Australia: Fuzes; van Blerk, Marnoch, Rice, Shepherd; Hughes, Warren, Watkiss; Abonyi, Westwater, Morrow (Giacometti).

Australia's tour of Asia

AUSTRALIA 5 (Abonyi 3, Warren, Baartz) **NEW ZEALAND 3** in Saigon.

Australia: Romanowicz; Keith, Ackerley; Micic (Schaefer), van Alphen, Westwater; McColl (Richards), Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, Vojtek.

SOUTH VIETNAM 0 AUSTRALIA 1 (Warren), in Saigon.

Australia: Romanowicz; Keith, Ackerley; Schaefer, van Alphen, Westwater; Vojtek, Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, McColl (Richards).

SINGAPORE 1 AUSTRALIA 5 (Abonyi 3, Westwater, Baartz) in Saigon.

Australia: Corry; Keith (Wilkins), Ackerley; Schaefer (Micic), van Alphen, Westwater; Richards, Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, Vojtek.

MALAYSIA 0 AUSTRALIA 1 (Baartz) in Saigon.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Ackerley; Schaefer, van Alphen, Westwater; McColl, Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, Vojtek.

SOUTH KOREA 2 AUSTRALIA 3 (Abonyi, Warren, Vojtek) in Saigon.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Ackerley; Schaefer, van Alphen, Westwater; McColl, Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, Vojtek.

INDONESIA 0 AUSTRALIA 2 (Abonyi, Baartz) in Djakarta.

Australia: Romanowicz; Keith (Wilkins), Ackerley; Schaefer, van Alphen, Westwater; McColl, Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, Vojtek (De Lyster).

INDONESIA 1 AUSTRALIA 3 (Vojtek 2, and own goal) in Djakarta.

Australia: Corry; Wilkins, Ackerley; Micic, Schaefer, Lloyd; Vojtek, Richards, Warren, Baartz (Westwater,) De Lyster.

SINGAPORE 1 AUSTRALIA 6 (Abonyi 2, Westwater, Micic, McColl, Vojtek) in Singapore.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Ackerley; Micic, Schaefer, Lloyd; McColl, Abonyi, Warren, Westwater, Vojtek (De Lyster.

Combined Services 1 Australia 8 (Abonyi 2, Vojtek 2, Schaefer, Westwater, McColl, Richards) in Singapore.

Australia: Romanowicz; Wilkins, Ackerley Micic, Schaefer (van Alphen), Lloyd; Vojtek, Abonyi, Richards, Westwater, McColl (De Lyster).

MALAYSIA 0 AUSTRALIA 4 (Vojtek 2, McColl, Abonyi) in Kuala Lumpur.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Ackerley; Schaefer, van Alphen, Westwater; McColl, Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, Vojtek.

1968

Tour by Japan

AUSTRALIA 2 (McColl, Blue) **JAPAN 2** in Sydney.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Schaefer, van Alphen, Ackerley; Scheinflug, Westwater (Blue), Baartz; Vojtek, Warren (inj. sub. Lloyd), McColl.

AUSTRALIA 3 (Vojtek, Baartz, Scheinflug) **JAPAN 1** in Melbourne.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Westwater, Schaefer, Ackerley; Blue, Scheinflug (Lloyd); Vojtek (McMeechan), Baartz, Blitz, McColl.

AUSTRALIA 1 (McColl) **JAPAN 3** in Adelaide.

Australia: Kelly; Keith, Schaefer (Lloyd), van Alphen, Ackerley; Westwater, Blue; Vojtek, Baartz, Scheinflug, McColl.

1969

Tour by Greece

AUSTRALIA 1 (Abonyi penalty) **GREECE 0** in Sydney.

Australia: Corry; Schaefer, Watkiss, Marnoch, Ackerley; Walsh, Warren; Alston (McColl), Abonyi, Baartz, Vojtek.

AUSTRALIA 2 (Vojtek, Baartz) **GREECE 2** in Brisbane.

Australia: Corry; Schaefer, Watkiss, Marnoch, Ackerley; Walsh, Warren; McColl, Abonyi, Baartz, Vojtek.

AUSTRALIA 0 GREECE 2 in Melbourne.

Australia: Corry; Schaefer, Watkiss, Marnoch, Ackerley (Rice); Lloyd (Walsh), McColl; Abonyi, Warren, Baartz, Vojtek.

World Cup

JAPAN 1 AUSTRALIA 3 (McColl, Baartz, Ogi own goal) in Seoul.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Schaefer, Marnoch (Manuel), Ackerley; Warren, Watkiss, McColl, Abonyi, Baartz, Perin (Vojtek).

SOUTH KOREA 1 AUSTRALIA 2 (Watkiss, McColl) in Seoul.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Schaefer, Marnoch, Ackerley; Warren, Watkiss; McColl, Abonyi, Baartz, Vojtek.

JAPAN 1 AUSTRALIA 1 (McColl) in Seoul.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Schaefer, Marnoch, Ackerley; Warren, Watkiss; McColl, Abonyi, Baartz, Vojtek.

SOUTH KOREA 1 AUSTRALIA 1 (Baartz) in Seoul.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Schaefer, Marnoch (Zeman), Ackerley; Warren, Perin; McColl, Abonyi (Rutherford), Baartz, Vojtek.

RHODESIA 1 AUSTRALIA 1 (McColl) in Laurenco Marques.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Schaefer, Marnoch, Ackerley; Walsh, Alston (Watkiss); Rutherford (Vojtek), Abonyi, Baartz, McColl.

RHODESIA 0 AUSTRALIA 0 in Laurenco Marques.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Schaefer, Marnoch, Ackerley; Warren, Walsh; Abonyi, Watkiss (Rutherford), Baartz, Vojtek.

RHODESIA 1 AUSTRALIA 3 (Rutherford, Warren, Tigere own goal) in Laurenco Marques.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Schaefer, Marnoch, Perin (Zeman), Walsh, Warren; Abonyi, Rutherford, Baartz (Alston), Vojtek.

ISRAEL 1 AUSTRALIA 0 in Tel Aviv.

Australia: Corry; Keith, Schaefer, Zeman, Ackerley; Watkiss, Warren; Abonyi, Rutherford, Baartz, McColl (Vojtek).

AUSTRALIA 1 (Watkiss) **ISRAEL 1** in Sydney.

Australia: Corry, Keith, Schaefer, Marnoch, Ackerley; Warren, Walsh; Abonyi, Watkiss, Baartz, Vojtek (Rutherford).

1970

Friendship Cup tournament in Saigon

Kowloon Bus Company 2 Australia 6 (Alston 3, McKinnon 2, Armstrong) in Saigon.

Australia: Corry (Reilly); Yaager, Schaefer, Wilson Perin; Mackay, Warren; Manuel (Quested), Alston, McKinnon (Armstrong), Vojtek.

South Vietnamese Army 0 Australia 1 (Alston) in Saigon.

Australia: Corry; Yaager, Schaefer Irvine), Wilson, Perin; Warren, Mackay, Quested, Alston, McKinnon, Vojtek.

Australia's world tour

New Caledonia 1 Australia 3 (Warren, Richards, Vojtek) in Noumea.

Australia: Reilly; Curran, Wilson, Schaefer, Yaager; Warren, Richards, Mackay; Blue (Doyle), Alston (Denton), Vojtek.

New Caledonia 0 Australia 1 (Doyle) in Noumea.

Australia: Reilly; Roche, Wilson, Schaefer, Yaager; Warren, Richards, Perin (Doyle); Blue, Denton, Vojtek.

Jardine Sports Club 0 Australia 3 (Vojtek 2, Blue) in Hong Kong.

Australia: Reilly; Roche (Williams), Wilson, Schaefer, Yaager; Mackay, Warren; Blue, Denton, Alston (Richards), Vojtek.

Macao 0 Australia 9 (Denton 3, Warren 2, Keddie 2, Blue, Irvine) in Macao.

Australia: Reilly (Romanowicz); Yaager (Irvine), Wilson, Schaefer, Williams; Warren, Richards (Doyle), Mackay (Perin); Blue (Keddie), Denton, Vojtek.

Oghab 0 Australia 0 in Teheran.

Australia: Reilly; Roche, Wilson, Schaefer, Yaager; Warren, Richards, Mackay; Vojtek, Denton, Alston (Doyle).

IRAN 1 AUSTRALIA 2 (Richards, Alston) in Teheran.

Australia: Reilly; Roche, Wilson, Schaefer, Yaager (Curran), Richards, Mackay, Warren; Blue (Alston), Denton, Vojtek.

Teheran XI 3 Australia 3 (Denton 2, Doyle) in Teheran.

Australia: Reilly; Roche, Wilson, Schaefer, Yaager; Warren, Richards, Doyle (Blue); Alston, Denton, Vojtek.

ISRAEL 0 AUSTRALIA 1 (Richards) in Tel Aviv.

Australia: Reilly; Roche, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Vojtek, Warren, Mackay; Blue (Richards), Alston (Doyle), Denton (Irvine).

Hapoel 1 Australia 2 (Richards, Keddie) in Haifa.

Australia: Romanowicz; Irvine, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran (Williams); Warren, Richards, Perin; Blue, Keddie, Alston.

GREECE 1 AUSTRALIA 3 (Alston, Mackay, Blue) in Athens.

Australia: Reilly, Roche, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards, Warren, Mackay; Blue, Alston, Vojtek (Denton).

Greece B 1 Australia 1 (Alston) in Kavala.

Australia: Reilly; Roche, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Mackay, Richards, Warren; Blue (Vojtek), Alston, Denton.

Luton Town 1 Australia 2 (Denton, Alston) in Luton.

Australia: Reilly; Roche, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Warren, Richards, Mackay; Denton, Alston, Blue.

Manchester City reserves 1 Australia 0 in Manchester.

Australia: Reilly; Roche, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Mackay, Richards (Perin), Warren; Alston, Denton (Vojtek), Blue.

League of Ireland 1 Australia 0 in Dublin.

Australia: Reilly; Yaager, Wilson, Schaefer, Williams (Irvine); Richards, Mackay, Warren; Blue, Alston (Doyle), Denton.

MEXICO 3 AUSTRALIA 0 in Mexico City.

Australia: Reilly; Roche, Wilson, Irvine, Curran (Yaager); Richards, Warren, Mackay; Blue, Alston, Denton.

1971

Tour by English FA

Australia 0 English FA 1 in Sydney.

Australia: Reilly; Keith, Wilson, Watkiss, Curran; Rooney, Richards, Baartz; Blue, Alston, Abonyi (Norman).

• Soldiers protect the South Korean players as they leave the field at half time of their World Cup qualifying game against Australia in Seoul in 1969

Australia 0 English FA 1 in Melbourne.

Australia: Reilly; Keith, Wilson, Watkiss, Curran; Rooney, Richards, Baartz; Blue (Tolson), Alston, Abonyi.

Tour by Israel

AUSTRALIA 2 (Tolson, Alston) **ISRAEL 2** in Brisbane.

Australia: Romanowicz; Harris, Wilson, Micic, Alston; Rooney, Mackay, Baartz; Vojtek, Tolson, Ainslie.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Ainslie) **ISRAEL 0** in Sydney.

Australia: Romanowicz; Harris, Wilson, Micic, Alston; Rooney, Mackay, Baartz; Vojtek, Tolson, Ainslie.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Baartz) **ISRAEL 3** in Melbourne.

Australia: Romanowicz; Harris, Micic (Campbell), Alston; Mackay, Rooney, Baartz; Vojtek, Tolson (Turner), Ainslie.

1972

Tour by Dundee (Scotland)

Australian X1 1 (Alston) **Dundee 2** in Adelaide.

Australia: Romanowicz; Harris, Wilson, Watkiss, Hogg; Rooney, Mackay, Baartz; Abonyi, Alston, Vojtek.

Tour by Wolverhampton Wanderers (England)

Australia 1 (Abonyi) **Wolves 0** in Melbourne.

Australia: Reilly; Harris, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg (B. Nyskohus); Richards, Mackay, Rooney, Baartz; Alston (Vojtek), Abonyi.

Australia 2 (Baartz 2) **Wolves 2** in Sydney.

Australia: Corry; Harris, Wilson, Schaefer, B. Nyskohus; Richards, Rooney, Baartz; Rogers, Alston, Butler.

Tour by FC Santos (Brazil)

Australia 2 (Rooney, Baartz **Santos 2** in Sydney.

Australia: Corry (Reilly); Harris, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Richards, Rooney, Mackay, Baartz; Alston, Abonyi (Rogers).

Australia's tour of Asia

INDONESIA 1 AUSTRALIA 4 (Buljevic 2, Tolson, Baartz pen) in Djakarta.

Australia: Reilly; Harris, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Richards (Rooney), Mackay (Warren), Baartz; Tolson, Alston (Abonyi), Buljevic.

NEW ZEALAND 1 AUSTRALIA 3 (Abonyi, Baartz, Warren) in Djakarta.

Australia: Corry; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, B. Nyskohus: Rooney (Baartz), McDonald, Warren; Abonyi, Armstrong (Alston), Butler (Buljevic).

South Vietnam under 23s 0 Australia 2 (Buljevic 2) in Saigon.

Australia: Corry; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; McDonald (Alston), Tolson (Richards), Warren (Rooney); Abonyi, Baartz, Buljevic.

SOUTH VIETNAM 0 AUSTRALIA 1 (Buljevic) in Saigon.

Australia: Reilly; Harris, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Baartz, Richards, Warren (Rooney); Abonyi (Tolson), Alston (Armstrong), Buljevic.

SOUTH KOREA 1 AUSTRALIA 1 (Tolson) in Seoul.

Australia: Reilly; Harris, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Richards, Mackay, Baartz; Abonyi, Tolson (Alston), Buljevic.

SOUTH KOREA 0 AUSTRALIA 2 (Baartz, Armstrong) in Seoul.

Australia: Corry; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg (B. Nyskohus); Richards, Warren, Rooney (Mackay); Alston, Baartz Armstrong (Tolson).

PHILIPPINES 0 AUSTRALIA 6 (Abonyi pen., Buljevic, Butler, Warren, Utjesenovic, Richards) in Manila.

Australia: Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, B. Nyskohus (Rooney); Richards, Mackay, Abonyi (Butler); Warren, Alston (Tolson), Buljevic.

1973

Tour by Bulgaria

AUSTRALIA 2 (Buljevic, Tolson pen.) **BULGARIA 2** in Sydney.

Australia: Corry; Harris, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Richards, Mackay, Baartz; Alston (Campbell), Tolson, Buljevic.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Baartz) **BULGARIA 3 in Adelaide.**

Australia: Corry; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Warren, Mackay, Baartz; Tolson, Campbell (Alston), Buljevic (Abonyi).

AUSTRALIA 0 BULGARIA 2 in Melbourne.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Rooney, Mackay, Baartz; Campbell, Tolson, Buljevic.

World Cup

NEW ZEALAND 1 AUSTRALIA 1 (Campbell) in Auckland.

Australia: Corry; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer; Hogg; Richards, Warren (Abonyi), Baartz; Alston, Tolson (Campbell), Buljevic.

AUSTRALIA 3 (Alston 2, Richards) **IRAK 1** in Sydney.

Australia: Corry; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Richards, Mackay, Rooney; Alston, Baartz, Buljevic (Campbell).

AUSTRALIA 2 (Campbell, Alston) **INDONESIA 1** in Sydney.

Australia: Corry; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Richards, Mackay, Rooney (Buljevic); Alston, Baartz, Campbell.

AUSTRALIA 3 (Utjesenovic, Baartz, Buljevic) **NEW ZEALAND 3** in Sydney.

Australia: Corry; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Richards, Mackay, Rooney; Alston, Baartz, Buljevic.

AUSTRALIA 0 IRAK 0 in Melbourne.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Mackay, Baartz, Richards; Alston, Tolson (Rooney), Buljevic (Abonyi).

AUSTRALIA 6 (Mackay 2, Abonyi 2, Richards, Baartz) **INDONESIA 0** in Sydney.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Hogg; Mackay, Richards, Baartz; Abonyi, Alston, Buljevic (Tolson).

AUSTRALIA 3 (Alston, Abonyi, Wilson) **IRAN 0** in Sydney.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Watkiss, Curran; Warren, Richards, Mackay; Abonyi, Baartz, Alston (Vojtek).

IRAN 2 AUSTRALIA 0 in Teheran.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Watkiss, Curran; Warren (Rooney), Richards, Mackay; Abonyi, Baartz, Alston (Tolson).

AUSTRALIA 0 SOUTH KOREA 0 in Sydney.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Watkiss, Curran; Richards, Mackay, Warren (Campbell); Abonyi, Baartz, Alston (Tolson).

SOUTH KOREA 2 AUSTRALIA 2 (Buljevic, Baartz) in Seoul.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards (Alston), Mackay, Rooney, Baartz; Abonyi, Buljevic.

SOUTH KOREA 0 AUSTRALIA 1 (Mackay) in Hong Kong.

Australia: Fraser; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards, Mackay, Rooney; Abonyi (Alston), Baartz, Buljevic.

1974

Tour by Ferencvaros (Hungary)

Australia 1 (Eipel own goal) **Ferencvaros 2** in Adelaide.

Australia: Fraser (Milisavljevic); Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer (Alston), Curran; Richards, Mackay, Rooney (Warren), Baartz; Abonyi, Buljevic.

Australia 0 Ferencvaros 0 in Sydney.

Australia: Fraser (Milisavljevic); Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards (Abonyi), Warren (Mackay), Baartz, Rooney; Campbell (Tolson), Alston (Buljevic).

Visit by Auckland XI

Australia 0 Auckland XI 0 in Sydney.

Australia: Reilly (Milisavljevic); Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Rooney, Mackay (Pocock), Harding, Baartz; Ollerton, Abonyi.

Tour by Uruguay

AUSTRALIA 0 URUGUAY 0 in Melbourne.

Australia: Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer (Alston), Curran; Mackay, Richards, Rooney, Baartz; Manuel (Ollerton), Buljevic.

AUSTRALIA 2 (Baartz, Ollerton) **URUGUAY 0** in Sydney.

Australia: Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Richards, Curran; Rooney, Harding, Mackay, Baartz; Abonyi, Ollerton.

Tour on way to Germany for World Cup

INDONESIA 1 AUSTRALIA 2 (Wilson, Curran) in Djakarta.

Australia: Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards (Warren), Rooney (Williams), Mackay, Alston (Manuel); Ollerton, Buljevic (Abonyi).

ISRAEL 2 AUSTRALIA 1 (Mackay) in Tel Aviv.

Australia: Reilly. Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Williams; Richards, Rooney, Mackay, Alston; Ollerton (Manuel), Buljevic (Abonyi).

St. Gallen 1 Australia 4 (Alston 3, Guggi o.g.) in Zurich.

Australia: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Watkiss, Williams; Richards, Mackey, Rooney, Warren; Abonyi, Campbell.

Young Boys 0 Australia 2 (Richards, Abonyi) in Berne.

Australia: Reilly (Milisavljevic); Utjesenovic, Wilson Schaefer, Williams; Richards, Rooney, Mackay, Warren (Campbell); Alston (Ollerton), Buljevic (Abonyi).

Xmax Neuchatel 0 Australia 1 (Richards) in Neuchatel.

Australia: Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards, Rooney, Mackay, Warren (Campbell); Alston, Buljevic (Abonyi).

World Cup finals

EAST GERMANY 2 (Curran o.g., Sparwasser) **AUSTRALIA 0** in Hamburg.

Australia: Reilly; Utejesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran, Richards, Mackay, Rooney, Warren; Alston, Buljevic.

WEST GERMANY 3 (Overath, Cullman, Mueller) **AUSTRALIA 0** in Hamburg.

Australia: Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran; Richards, Rooney, Mackay, Campbell (Abonyi); Alston, Buljevic (Ollerton).

AUSTRALIA 0 CHILE 0 in West Berlin.

Australia: Reilly, Utjesenovic, Wilson, Schaefer, Curran (Williams), Richards (sent off), Mackay, Rooney, Abonyi; Alston (Ollerton), Buljevic.

1975

Tour by Legia Warsaw (Poland)

Australian X1 2 (Rooney, Manuel) **Legia Warsaw 2** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Curran; Richards, Rooney, Mackay (Grosse); Campbell, Manuel (Micevski), Buljevic.

Australian XI 1 (Rooney) **Legia Warsaw 2** in Brisbane.

Australian XI: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Curran; Richards, Rooney (McGrotty), Mackay; Campbell, Buljevic, Micevski.

Tour by Glasgow Rangers

Australian XI 1 (Harding) **Glasgow Rangers 2** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Reilly; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Richards, Rooney, Harding; Butler (Micevski), Ollerton, Campbell.

GEORGE HARRIS

BROTHER-IN-LAW WAS HIS RIVAL

The combination of an injury and the brilliance of his brother-in-law Doug Utjesenovic, kept George Harris out of the national team for two and a half years.

Harris was called into the national team to replace George Keith in the three-match series against Israel in 1971. He held his place for games against Dundee, Wolves and Santos and was selected, along with Utjesenovic, for the 1972 Asian tour.

The brothers-in-law shared the right back position on that tour. Then, when Bulgaria visited in 1973, it was Harris who got the nod ahead of Utjesenovic for the first of the three matches in the series. But he suffered an injury and Utjesenovic came in for the second match.

Utjesenovic played in every one of the following 36 matches until well into the series against the USSR in late 1975. That's when Harris came back, replacing Utjesenovic for the scoreless draw with the Russians in Brisbane. To enable both of them to play in future, Harris was used at left back until Utjesenovic was injured on the 1976 world tour, which forced Harris to return to the right back post.

Harris played in all but two of the 1977 World Cup games and was in the Australian XI that drew 1-1 with Greece in Sydney in 1978.

A schoolteacher, Harris played junior soccer with Sans Souci and James Cook High before turning out in the Riverina competition while at Wagga Teachers Training College.

He reached the St George senior team in 1969 when John Warren, Attila Abonyi and Manfred Schaefer went overseas with the Socceroos for World Cup matches. But in 1970 Harris suffered appendicitis which kept him out until four matches from the end of the season. He came in as a substitute when Geoff Bird was injured. At the same time, Harry Williams came in for Roger Hillary.

In 1971, Harris got his first taste of international competition when he went on Saints' successful trip to Japan and the same year he played in the Saints team that beat Western Suburbs 3-2 in the NSW grand final. Harris went on to become captain of St George and under his inspiring leadership, the Saints won the 1975 Ampol Cup and the 1974, 1975 and 1976 NSW championships.

● ***On the bench during a World Cup match in Seoul in 1969, from right: Bill Rorke, Lou Kastner, Adrian Alston, Attila Abonyi, Gary Manuel, John Perin, coach Joe Vlasits.***

Australian XI 1 (Ollerton) **Glasgow Rangers 0** in Brisbane.

Australian XI: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Rooney, Harding, Richards, Micevski (Grosse), Ollerton, Campbell.

Tour by Manchester United

Australian XI 0 Manchester United 4 in Sydney.

Australian XI: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Richards, Rooney, Harding; Campbell, Ollerton, Micevski (Grosse).

Visit by China

Australia 1 (Cummings) **China 0** in Melbourne.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams, Muniz, Rooney, Harding (Byrne); Colusso, Barnes, Micevski (Cummings).

Tour by Benfica (Portugal)

Australian XI 2 (Buljevic 2) **Benfica 2** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Muniz, Byrne (Russell), Harding; Cummings (Colusso), Ollerton, Buljevic.

Tour by USSR

AUSTRALIA 0 USSR 0 in Perth.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Muniz, Harding, Byrne; Ilott, J. Nyskohus, Campbell.

AUSTRALIA 0 USSR 3 in Adelaide.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Harding, Muniz (Gnavi), Byrne; Ilott (Barnes), J. Nyskohus, Campbell.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Campbell) **USSR 2** in Melbourne.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Tansey; Harding, Muniz, Byrne; Campbell (Ilott), Ollerton, Barnes (J. Nyskohus).

AUSTRALIA 0 USSR 0 in Brisbane.

Australia: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Tansey; Rooney, Muniz, Byrne; Campbell, Ollerton, Barnes.

AUSTRALIA 2 (Ollerton, Barnes) **USSR 3** in Sydney.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Tansey; Muniz, Rooney (Byrne), Harding (Russell); Campbell (Ilott), Ollerton, Barnes.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Ollerton) **USSR 1** in Newcastle.

Australia: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Harris; Rooney, Muniz, Harding; Campbell, Ollerton, Barnes.

1976

Tour by Velez Mostar (Yugoslavia)

Australian XI 2 (Ollerton, Barnes) **Velez Mostar 2** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Tansey; Muniz, Rooney, Harding; Ilott (J. Nyskohus), Ollerton, Barnes.

New Zealand series home and away

NEW ZEALAND 0 AUSTRALIA 1 (Harding) in Auckland.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Harris; Rooney, Harding, Muniz; Jankovics (J. Nyskohus) Ollerton, Barnes.

AUSTRALIA 3 (Barnes, Ollerton, Abonyi) **NEW ZEALAND 1** in Melbourne.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Harris; Harding, Muniz, Rooney; Abonyi (J. Nyskohus), Ollerton, Barnes.

Visit by Tottenham Hotspur (England)

Australian XI 2 (Harding, J. Nyskohus) **Spurs 3** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Tansey, Bennett, Harris; Harding, Muniz, Rooney; Barnes (J. Nyskohus), Ollerton, Abonyi.

Tour by Sunderland (England)

Australian XI 3 (Harding 2, Abonyi) **Sunderland 4** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Tansey, Bennett, Harris; Harding (Byrne), Muniz, Rooney; J. Nyskohus, Jankovics (Ollerton), Abonyi.

Australian XI 0 Sunderland 0 in Melbourne.

Australian XI: Maher; Utjesenovic, Tansey, Bennett, Harris; Rooney (Byrne), Muniz, Harding; Abonyi, Jankovics, J. Nyskohus (Barnes).

Tour by Hearts of Midlothian (Scotland)

Australian XI 2 (Muniz, Abonyi) **Hearts 1.**

Australian XI: Maher, Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bell, Harris; Harding, Muniz, Rooney; Barnes, Ollerton, Abonyi.

Tour by Bologna (Italy)

Australian XI 3 (Bell, Harding, Abonyi) **Bologna 0** in Adelaide.

Australian XI: Maher; Harris, Wilson, Bell, Tansey; Harding, Byrne, Kolecki; J. Nyskohus (Abonyi), Ollerton, Kosmina.

Australian XI 0 Bologna 0 in Sydney.

Australian XI: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bell, Williams; Harding (Rooney), Muniz, Byrne; Barnes, Jankovics, Stone.

Tour by Italian Army

Australian XI 1 (Ollerton) **Italian Army 3** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bell, Williams; Harding, Muniz, Byrne; Kosmina, Ollerton, Abonyi.

Tour by Hong Kong

AUSTRALIA 0 HONG KONG 1 in Canberra.

Australia: Clarke; Mullen, Wilson, Bell, Ainslie; Stone, Davies, Ristovski; Cummings, Barnes, P. O'Connor.

AUSTRALIA 2 (Abonyi, Harding) **HONG KONG 0** in Gosford.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Rooney, Muniz (Byrne), Harding; Kosmina, Barnes (O'Connor), Abonyi.

Tour of Asia and Europe

INDONESIA 1 AUSTRALIA 1 (Abonyi) in Djakarta.

Australia: Maher; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bell, Williams; Harding (Byrne), Muniz, Rooney; Abonyi (Marocchi), Ollerton, Kosmina.

SINGAPORE 0 AUSTRALIA 1 (Ollerton) in Singapore.

Australia: Maher (Clarke); Harris, Bennett, Wilson, Tansey; Byrne, Muniz, Marocchi; Barnes (Abonyi), Ollerton, J. Nyskohus.

HONG KONG 0 AUSTRALIA 2 (Abonyi pen., J. Nyskohus) in Hong Kong.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic (Harris), Tansey, Bennett, Williams; Rooney, Muniz, Harding; J. Nyskohus, Kosmina, Abonyi.

Chinese Selection 4 Australia 5 (Abonyi 2, Kosmina 2, Bell) in Peking.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bell, Tansey; Harding, Muniz, Byrne; J. Nyskohus, Kosmina, Abonyi.

China 0 Australia 2 (Ollerton 2) in Canton.

Australia: Clarke; Harris (Utjesenovic), Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne, Marocchi, Rooney (Harding); Abonyi, Ollerton, Kosmina.

ISRAEL 1 AUSTRALIA 1 (Wilson) in Tel Aviv.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Rooney, Byrne, Marocchi; Kosmina, Ollerton, Abonyi.

Hamburger SV 2 Australia 1 (Williams) in Hamburg.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bell (Bennett), Harris (Williams); Byrne, Rooney (Kosmina), Muniz; Abonyi, Ollerton, J. Nyskohus.

PSV Eindhoven 2 Australia 1 (Kosmina) in Eindhoven.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne, Rooney, Muniz (J. Nyskohus); Abonyi, Ollerton, Kosmina.

KSV Baunatal 1 Australia 1 (J. Nyskohus) in Kassel.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic, Bennett, Tansey, Williams; Byrne, Marocchi, Muniz, Harding; Barnes, J. Nyskohus.

Sunderland 2 Australia 0 in Sunderland.

Australia: Clarke; Utjesenovic (inj. sub Tansey), Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne, Rooney, Muniz (Harding); Kosmina, Ollerton, J. Nyskohus (Abonyi).

Birmingham City 4 Australia 1 (Abonyi) in Birmingham.

Australia: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne, Rooney, Harding; Abonyi, Ollerton, Kosmina.

1977

Tour by Red Star (Yugoslavia)

Australian XI 1 (Abonyi) **Red Star 3** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne, Rooney, (Harding), Muniz; Kosmina, Ollerton, Abonyi.

Australian XI 1 (Harding) **Red Star 3** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne, Muniz, Rooney; Kosmina, Ollerton, Abonyi.

Australian XI 1 (Kosmina) **Red Star 3** in Melbourne.

Australian XI: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne, Abonyi, Muniz; (Marocchi), Rooney (J. Nyskohus); Kosmina, Ollerton.

Tour by Israel

AUSTRALIA 1 (Ollerton) **ISRAEL 1** in Melbourne.

Australia: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne, Abonyi (Harding), Muniz, Rooney; Kosmina (Barnes), Ollerton.

AUSTRALIA 1 (Shani o.g.) **ISRAEL 1** in Sydney.

Australia: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne (J. Nyskohus), Muniz, Rooney; Abonyi, Ollerton, Kosmina.

World Cup qualifying games

TAIWAN 0 AUSTRALIA 3 (Rooney 2, Abonyi) in Ba, Fiji.

Australia: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Rooney, Muniz, Byrne; Abonyi, Ollerton, Kosmina.

TAIWAN 1 AUSTRALIA 2 (Kosmina, Abonyi) in Ba, Fiji.

Australia: Clarke; Stone, Wilson, Bennett, Harris; Muniz, Byrne, Rooney; Abonyi, Ollerton (J. Nyskohus), Kosmina.

Match against Fiji, the World Cup host

FIJI 1 AUSTRALIA 0 in Suva.

Australia: Maher; Stone, Wilson, Bennett, Tansey; Marocchi, Byrne, Harding; Kosmina, Barnes, J. Nyskohus.

World Cup qualifying games

AUSTRALIA 3 (Ollerton 2, Kosmina) **NEW ZEALAND 1** in Sydney.

Australia: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Muniz (Harding), Byrne, Rooney; Abonyi, Ollerton, Kosmina.

NEW ZEALAND 1 AUSTRALIA 1 (Ollerton) in Auckland.

Australia: Clarke; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Harding, Rooney, Byrne; Kosmina, Ollerton, Abonyi.

Tour by Middlesbrough

Australian XI 0 Middlesbrough 5 in Sydney.

Australia: T. Eaton; Harris, Bennett, Wilson, Tansey; Harding (Stone), Byrne, Rooney; Kosmina, Ollerton, Abonyi (J. Nyskohus).

Visit by Bobby Charlton's All-Stars

Australian XI 2 (Barnes, Harding pen) **Bobby Charlton's All Stars 1** in Melbourne.

Australia: Maher; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Tansey; Barnes, Harding, Rooney (Marocchi); Kosmina, Ollerton, J. Nyskohus.

World Cup qualifying match

AUSTRALIA 3 (Kosmina 2, Barnes) **HONG KONG 0** in Adelaide.

Australia: Maher; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Barnes, Harding, Rooney; Kosmina, Ollerton, J. Nyskohus.

"World of Soccer" tournament

Australia 3 (Kosmina, J. Nyskohus, Ollerton) **Arsenal 1** in Sydney.

Australia: Maher; Harris, Bennett, Wilson, Williams; Rooney, Harding, Barnes (Stone); J. Nyskohus (Sharne), Ollerton, Kosmina.

Australia 2 (Barnes, Ollerton) **Glasgow Celtic 3** in Sydney.

Australia: Maher; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Byrne, Rooney, (Stone), Barnes; Abonyi, Ollerton, Kosmina.

Australia 2 (Kosmina, Harding) **Red Star Belgrade 3** in Melbourne.

Australia: Reilly; Harris, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Harding, Barnes, Rooney; Kosmina, Ollerton, (Sharne), J. Nyskohus.

World Cup qualifying games

AUSTRALIA 0 IRAN 1 in Melbourne.

Australia: Maher; Harris, Bennett, Wilson, Williams; Barnes, Harding, Rooney; Kosmina, Ollerton, J. Nyskohus (Sharne).

AUSTRALIA 2 (Kosmina 2) **SOUTH KOREA 1** in Sydney.

Australia: Maher; Harris (Byrne), Wilson, Bennett, Williams, Barnes, Harding, Rooney; Kosmina, Ollerton, J. Nyskohus (Abonyi).

AUSTRALIA 1 (Rooney) **KUWAIT 2** in Sydney.

Australia: Maher; Curran, Wilson, Bennett, Williams; Barnes, Harding (Stone), Rooney; Alston, Kosmina, Ollerton (Abonyi).

SOUTH KOREA 0 AUSTRALIA 0 in Seoul.

Australia: Maher; Curran, Wilson, Bennett, Harris; Byrne, Rooney (Marocchi), Stone; Kosmina, Ollerton (Alston), Abonyi.

HONG KONG 2 AUSTRALIA 5 (Ollerton 3, Abonyi pen., Bennett) in Hong Kong.

Australia: Maher; Curran (Marocchi), Wilson, Bennett, Harris; Byrne, Rooney, Stone; Kosmina (J. Nyskohus), Ollerton, Abonyi.

International in Singapore on way to Kuwait and Iran

SINGAPORE 0 AUSTRALIA 2 (Ollerton, Abonyi) in Singapore.

Australia: Maher; Curran, Jones, Bennett, Harris; Byrne, Rooney, Stone (Harding); Kosmina, Ollerton (Alston), Abonyi (J. Nyskohus).

World Cup qualifying games

KUWAIT 1 AUSTRALIA 0 in Kuwait.

Australian team: Maher; Curran, Jones, Bennett, Harris; Byrne, Rooney, Stone; Kosmina (sent off 2nd half), Ollerton, Abonyi (J. Nyskohus).

IRAN 1 AUSTRALIA 0 in Teheran.

Australian team: Maher; Byrne, Wilson, Bennett, Curran; Marocchi, Rooney, Stone; Alston, Ollerton, Abonyi (J. Nyskohus).

1978

Tour by Greece

Australian XI 1 (Cole) **Greece 2** in Melbourne.

Australian XI: Laumets; Byrne, Kalafatidis, Jones (Kokoska), Tansey; Picioane (Davies), Marocchi, Stevenson (Christopoulos); Ristovski, Cole, J. Nyskohus.

AUSTRALIA 0 GREECE 1 in Adelaide.

Australia: Maher; Byrne, Jones, Bennett, Tansey; Stone, Marocchi, Barnes (P. O'Connor), Sharne, Kosmina, J. Nyskohus.

Australian XI 1 (Barnes pen) **Greece 1** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Clarke (Meier); Iozelli, Perry, Bennett, Harris; Barnes, Davies (Karaspyros), J. OShea, Stone; Giampaolo (P. O'Connor), Senkalski.

1979

Tour by Wisla Krakow

Australian XI 1 (Jankovics) **Wisla Krakow 3** in Sydney.

Australian XI: Maher; Perry, S. O'Connor, Henderson, Degney; Barnes, J. O'Shea, Picioane (Souness 75th); Sharne (P. O'Connor 85th), Jankovics, Silva, (Boden 62nd).

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AUSTRALIAN UNDER 19 SOCCER TEAM
FIFA/Coca-Cola World Youth Tournament 1979

The Australian under 19s in New Zealand for qualifying games in the world youth championships for the Coca-Cola Cup, standing from left: Rudi Gutendorf (coach), Greg Woodhouse, Steve Hogg, Paul Tombidis, Eddie Krncevic, Ian Rowden, Mike Milovanovic, Graham Jennings, Theo Selemidis, Jeff Olver, Joe Vlasits (assistant coach). Peter van Rijn (masseur). Front: Danny Moulis, Craig Hall, Peter Raskopoulos, John Spanos, Alan Davidson, Peter Tredinnick, Ian Hunter, George Christopoulos, Matcolm McClelland.

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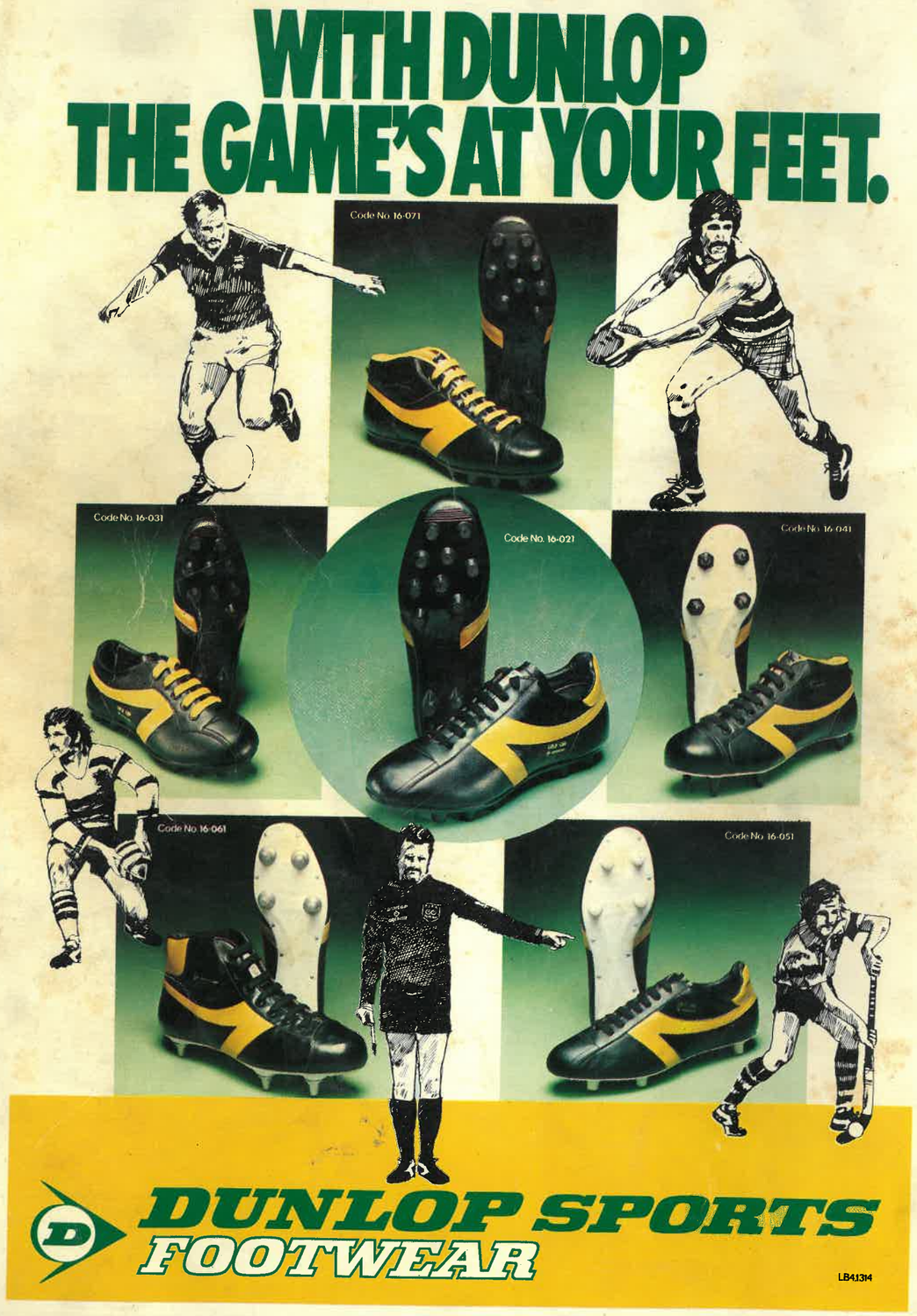
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